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WORLD

WIDE

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
No. 311

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AUSTRALIA

UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS TURN TO CRIME, DRUGS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 8 Jun 77 p 14

[Text] Drugs and crime were becoming an alternative for many young people without any work or leisure satisfaction, the Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation, Mr Dixon, said yesterday.

He told a Jaycees meeting that society was facing an increasingly serious problem as youth unemployment continued.

"Generally speaking there is a high correlation between high work satisfaction and high leisure satisfaction, and those with low work satisfaction have low leisure satisfaction," he said.

It was difficult to separate cause and effect in links between unemployed youth and escalating drug use and crimes.

"It is just a matter of opinion," he said.

"I think that certainly the unemployment situation has got something to do with more young people turning to crime."

He said people living in big cities increasingly felt anonymity, isolation, depression and loneliness, "a sense of powerlessness, that the world has become too big, too difficult to cope with."

"We have got to reverse that trend," he said.

Mr Dixon suggested it might be useful to teach Eastern philosophy and meditation in schools.

He said society had become "carried away with the importance of bigness." But a sense of the individual, and of caring inter-personal relationships was important.

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BURMA

BRIEFS

LATHA STREET HEROIN SEIZURE--Rangoon, 3 July--Latha police station officer U Tin Shwe and a party, with the assistance from Ward No 5 People's Council-lors, yesterday raided the top floor of No 70 in Latha Street, which is no-torius for opium dealings. During the search four packets of heroin, each worth 60 kyats, were found hidden among the food offerings on the altar. Shoaw Tin, alias Daw Yi (46), and her eldest son Maung Maung, alias Tan Ket Swan, were arrested. [Text] [Rangoon LIKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 4 Jul 77 p 7 BK]

HEROIN SEIZED IN RANGOON--Rangoon, 1 July--Subinspector U Kan Myint and a regional control party from the Pabedan township police station at 1500 yesterday raided the residence of Tha Chit, alias Ibrahim, at No 183, ground floor, 32d Street, and seized a penicillin bottle half filled with heroin, 1 small packet of heroin, 10 packets of heroin each worth 10 kyats, and 4 empty penicillin bottles with traces of heroin. Arrests and charges have been made. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 2 Jul 77 p 7 BK]

HEROIN, OPIUM SEIZED--Prome, 30 June--A total of 10,000 kyats worth of opium and heroin--a plastic bag containing heroin worth 5,000 kyats, and four pack-agies of opium worth 5,000 kyats and weighing 4 viss (1 viss equals 3.6 pounds--fbis)--were seized at Prome bus station from four passengers--Maung Maung of Pagan Hmyaw ward of Minbu, and Aye Pe, Mya Than and Tin Shwe of An Township in Arakan state. The four passengers had boarded the bus in Minbu. The bus, No NGA/9986--named Shwe Mintha--was driver by Ko Yi Khin from Magwe to Prome. The four persons have been arrested and charged under Section 6 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Excerpt] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 3 Jul 77 p 4 BK]

ARTIST ARRESTED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION--Rangoon, 28 Jun--Police subinspector U Aung Ngwe of Latha township police station and a party, who were on patrol in the township at about 10 pm last night, seized a packet of heroin from Artist Moe Co, alias Thein Tun (24), of Bogyoke Market, near No 8 bus stop at the corner of 23rd Street and Strand Road. Latha police have opened a case against Moe Co under Sections 6(b)/14(d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 29 Jun 77 p 1 BK]

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INDONESIA

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN JAILED--Bandung, 13 July (ANTARA)--An Australian, Philips Collin Charles (20), on Monday was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment and fined RP250,000 by the Bandung District Court. Charles was charged of being in possession of and selling heroin in Indonesia. The District Court confiscated from the convict material evidence, 65 grams of heroin, a small scale, a tape recorder and a note book containing the price list of heroin, to be damaged. [Sentence as received] The convict, who was accompanied by his lawyer, Danu Subroto, said he would think over the court decision. Abdulkadir Ruslan presided the court session. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 0756 GMT 13 Jul 77 BK]

TWO DRUG SMUGGLERS ESCAPE--Jakarta, Jul 12 (AFP)--An Australian and an American airplane pilot serving prison sentences for drug smuggling in Bali escaped from their Bali jails Saturday and are feared to have succeeded in sailing out of Indonesia. The men made their escape almost simultaneously although one was held in Denpasar and the other at Karang Asem, 70 kms (45 miles) northeast of the Balinese capital. Australian pilot Donald Andrew Ahern had been sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment and American pilot David Allan Riffe to 7 years after 664 kgs of marihuana had been found in a Cessna plane they were refueling in Denpasar on their way to Australia last year. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1014 GMT 12 Jul 77 BK]

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

KOREAN ARRESTED IN JAPAN--Osaka, 12 Jul, KYODO--A South Korean resident in Japan was arrested at Osaka International Airport Monday night on charges of trying to smuggle stimulant drugs into Japan from South Korea, police reported Tuesday. The smuggler was identified as So Myong-Kyu, 47, a construction contractor, of Habikino, Osaka prefecture, police said. So was arrested at Osaka airport when he was found carrying 300 grams of stimulant drugs worth about 120 million yen at street value during a customs inspection of his hand baggage. He had just returned from a visit to Pusan. Customs officials quoted So as saying that he attempted the smuggling at the request of a South Korean friend living in Pusan. It is suspected that an underworld group was behind the smuggling in view of So's frequent trips between the two countries. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1245 GMT 12 Jul 77 OW]

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MALAYSIA

STATE GOVERNMENTS URGED TO ESTABLISH HALFWAY HOUSES

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 31 May 77 p 22

[Text]

KUANTAN, Mon. — State Governments in the country have been urged to set up "half-way treatment houses" as their contribution in the fight against drug abuse.

Deputy Law Minister Encik Rais Yatim said today that it was no longer logical for State Governments to depend solely on the Federal Government to solve the drug problem.

Explaining the concept of half-way houses, he said they were to neutralise and discipline those addicts who have been treated at drug rehabilitation centres either at Batu Gajah in

Perak, Kuala Kubu Baru in Selangor or Tampoi in Johore.

He stressed that such treatment was necessary, pointing out that out of 17 addicts who return to society after treatment at the centres, seven revert to their old ways.

"While there is no guarantee that the half-way houses would completely discourage the addicts from taking drugs again, it serves as another line of defence against pushers who try to tempt them as soon as they make a comeback," he said.

Encik Rais was addressing committee members of the Kuantan branch of the National Association Against Drug Abuse (Pemadam) at its meeting here.

The branch is led by District Officer Encik Abdullah Kia.

Encik Rais added that addicts would have to spend about six months at the half-way houses depending on their resistance. This was in addition to the six or eight months already spent at the main centres.

He said at these houses, which would be maintained by the State Governments, inmates would be encouraged to be self-sufficient and to grow vegetables, have dialogues with doctors, religious officials, police and social welfare officers.

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MALAYSIA

ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN SARAWAK

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 21 May 77 p 9

[Text]

SIBU. — Unless immediate action is taken to check the alarming spread of drugs, Malaysia's efforts being devoted to nation-building will be wasted, "and our hope for a bright future for our nation will be shattered."

This was the message of the people from Mr Lo Foot Kee, Sarawak's Assistant Minister for Local Government, in opening an anti-drug and anti-VD campaign, held as part of the national Youth Week celebrations.

He was backing a warning sounded shortly before in Kuala Lumpur by Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Deputy Prime Minister, who said drugs are now a serious threat to the country, not only because of the increasing number of addicts but also because of their possible exploitation by the communists.

The Deputy Prime Minister, who was opening a national anti-drug exhibition, said Malaysia has 20,000 known drug addicts.

If the large number of unknown addicts are taken into account, then the total could easily be 100,000, "equal to the population of a big town."

Mr Lo said that from what Dr Mahathir had disclosed, the seriousness of drug abuse is now alarming and urgent action is needed to put a halt to it.

There are frightening consequences of taking drugs. Constant use meant ill health, the inability of the user to keep a job, the loss of earning power.

The addict had to have money to buy the drugs needed to satisfy his constant craving, and to get it often turned to crime.

Mr Lo said there are

many reasons why people, particularly the young, have resorted to drugs, the most common being a loosening of family ties and social controls in a society whose pattern and values are changing.

Additionally with this, the traditional standards of morality are being challenged and modified.

The minister said these changes lead to conflict, insecurity, anxiety, aggression and changed attitudes on sexuality, which has, in turn, created another Sarawak problem — increasing rates of venereal disease.

More and more in the

younger age groups are falling prey to gonorrhoea and syphilis.

"Gonorrhoea in women quite often tends to be silent and may result in chronic ill health. In about 3 percent of affected women it may cause sterility. It may also result in blindness of the new-born baby."

The danger of syphilis, he remarked, is that it may lie dormant for years and may, insidiously, damage the brain and other vital organs, like the heart, eyes and bones.

It can result in insanity, disability, deformity and death.

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MALAYSIA

DRUG SHORTAGE PUSHES UP PRICES

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 28 May 77 p 14

[Text]

PENANG, Fri. — The Government may introduce legislation in July to deny bail to drug suspects who are charged with possessing five or more grams of either morphine or heroin, the Deputy Law Minister, Encik Rais Yatim said today.

Speaking to reporters after being briefed at the Central Narcotics Bureau here, he said that at present drug offenders charged under the Emergency Ordinance of 1969, were normally granted bail.

Encik Yatim said he was pleased to note that there had been a decrease in drug trafficking here and hoped the situation would improve.

However, he said the author-

ties were alarmed at the existence of secret laboratories making drugs. Two of these laboratories were discovered in Bukit Mertajam last year and one in Kulim last month.

"This presents a serious problem to us because it indicates that foreign expertise is being brought in to manufacture heroin locally," said Encik Yatim.

He said there was a scarcity of narcotics in the market at present. This explains the decrease in drug trafficking at the moment.

One pound of heroin (Grade 3) now costs \$4,000 compared with \$3,000 last year while one pound of Grade Four heroin now costs \$7,000 compared

with \$4,000. Raw opium which cost \$250 per pound last year is now priced at \$350 and the price of ganja has also gone up to \$160 per pound.

He added that the majority of drug traffickers were petty traders, businessmen and the jobless. The authorities have found it difficult to detect the kingpins because these people no longer deal with middlemen but through their own men.

He realised that with the enforcement work of catching drug addicts, rehabilitation for these people should also be provided for. With this mind, the drug addicts rehabilitation centre in Bukit Mertajam, will be accommodating more addicts.

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MALAYSIA

PUSHERS USE CIGARETTES TO AVOID DETECTION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 May 77 p 17

[Text]

IPOH, Tues. — Drug pushers are spiking drugs in cigarettes for sale on the black market here.

This appears to be a tactic adopted by pushers after having tried various means to avoid detection by the authorities.

Police sources said that instead of selling the drug in the usual straw tubes, pushers had found it "very convenient" to sell the drugs, especially heroin, by spiking them in cigarettes which were sold at \$3 each.

Addicts could also easily take the drug by smoking.

"By selling these drug cigarettes, the chances of being detected are less, as the transaction could be made in the guise of offering a friend a cigarette," said the sources.

"The cigarettes used are usually those without filters."

Shortage

Other than spiked cigarettes and straw tubes, heroin is also being sold in plastic bags and glass vials.

According to the sources, a heroin processing laboratory has yet to be uncovered in Ipoh, but it had been found that the Bukit Merah, Menglembu and Pasir Puteh areas were notorious for heroin pushing.

"It is believed that the heroin sold in Ipoh is mainly from these areas," the sources added.

They said that although there was a shortage of heroin in Perak, this had not pushed up the price. Instead of increasing the price, they had either decreased the amount of heroin or adulterated it with white powder.

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MALAYSIA

MALAYSIAN JAILED IN BRITAIN ON HEROIN CHARGE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 May 77 p 8

[Article by Irene Ngoo in London]

[Text]

MECHANIC Peter Lim, 24, described in court yesterday as the son of a Malaysian MP, was jailed for six years for smuggling heroin worth £250,000 from Holland into Britain.

The court heard that the "highly respectable" background of Peter made him a trusted courier for an international heroin smuggling racket based in London.

His bosses in the drugs world knew he would not dare betray them for fear of embarrassing his father and made use of him to bring in two pounds of "high

quality" Chinese heroin from Amsterdam last August.

But Lim met his match when he tried to sell the heroin to a Scotland Yard detective who was posing as a big-time drugs dealer to infiltrate into the Chinese secret society of which Lim was a member.

Yesterday at the Old Bailey, Lim of Canfield Gardens, Hampstead, London, was jailed for four years for possession of the drugs and six years for smuggling it into England on Aug. 13, the sentences to run concurrently.

The man who helped

him try to dispose of the drugs, 24-year-old David Lodde, a clerk of Northdown Street, Kings Cross, London, was jailed for four years.

No evidence was offered against Lim's wife, Mui Hiang, 23, a typist, who had denied the drug charges. She was discharged.

Mr David Tudor Price, prosecuting, said the heroin, a high quality composition which could fetch at least £250,000 when diluted, was the largest single amount to be seized in this country.

He said Lim was "hard up" when he travelled to Amsterdam

and met members of an international drugs ring. Desperately in need of cash, he agreed to smuggle the heroin into England in the boot of his car.

He met Lodde, a former colleague described in court as a "swash-buckling rascal," who knew the drugs racket very well.

Lim offered Lodde £600 to help dispose of the heroin, which was to be sold off as one lot "at a wholesale price" of about £14,000.

Lodde contacted a man, whom he thought was a drug addict at a strip club in Kings Cross. The junkie was in fact a police informer. Scotland Yard officers were tipped off and the undercover detective, whose identity is being kept secret, moved into action.

Mr Tudor Price said the detective, known to his contacts as "Happy Hippie Tony" gained entry into the seamy world of drugs dealing by posing as a big-time drugs dealer.

Soon after he had been accepted, a trap was laid and sprung by his colleagues from the drugs squad. The detective had several meetings with Lim and Lodde to discuss and negotiate a deal.

On Aug. 13 when the drugs were about to change hands, a party of detectives pounced on a car parked in Islington Street and Lim, who had the heroin with him, and Lodde, the driver, were arrested.

Mr Tudor Price said Lim lied continuously after the arrest and gave different stories. At one point he was asked if he was a member of any triad group and he strenuously denied it.

He said he had been short of money when approached by men of the drugs ring in Amsterdam.

Counsel said Lim told the officers: "I can't tell you everything because they have the eye on me. It's been my greed that has brought me all this trouble."

In passing sentence, Judge Hines said: "The gravity of your offences is very clear." He said that heavy sentences must be imposed to indicate "the clearest possible warning" to other drug dealers.

MALAYSIA

POLICE SEIZE HEROIN, ARREST THREE NEAR SCHOOL CANTEEN

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Jun 77 p 1 BK

[By A. Sripathy]

[Excerpt] Malacca, Friday--Police recovered 20 packets of heroin beneath the floor mat of a car parked beside the canteen of the Anglo-Chinese school in Jalan Tranquerah here yesterday afternoon. The driver, a passenger and a cyclist who was nearby were arrested and the car seized.

The three are believed to be involved in distributing heroin to the students of the school. Malacca's acting CID [Criminal Investigation Division] chief, Acting Deputy Supt. S.K. Sabapathy, said today that acting on a tip-off a police party led by Insp. Muzamil Bin Hassan laid an ambush near the school canteen at about 2 p.m.

After a 45-minute wait, they saw a youth park his bicycle near the canteen. Ten minutes later, a car pulled up and the driver and passenger alighted and walked up to the canteen where they were joined by the cyclist. At this point, the police rushed out of their ambush positions and arrested the trio. They searched the car and found the heroin.

The Malacca CID narcotics section is investigating to establish the source of supply and to what extent the students of the school are involved in drug abuse. Mr Sabapathy said the assistance of the school headmaster and education department was being sought in the probe.

Meanwhile, he was contacting other schools in town to ensure that no unauthorized persons were allowed into school compounds. If necessary, special security arrangements would be made to issue passes to anyone other than students to enter a school.

He said on Wednesday a police party led by Insp. Muzamil arrested a man as he came out of a mee-stall at Jalan Kilang here and seized a tube believed to contain heroin from him. After questioning him, they raided the stall and found in a drawer, another three tubes believed to contain heroin. The stall owner was arrested.

Yesterday at Alor Gajah, 15 miles from here, a police party detained a motorcyclist and seized six tubes believed to contain heroin from him.

The man told police his source of supply was Tam Pin. Police are trying to track down the supplier.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

DELEGATE TO ASEAN CONFERENCE--Malaysia is to discuss with Thailand the strengthening of efforts to curb the flow of drugs into the country. This was stated by the minister of welfare services, Datuk Hajjah Aishah Binte Abduli Ghani. She was speaking before leaving Kuala Lumpur for Jakarta to attend the meeting of the ASEAN welfare services ministers beginning today. Datuk Hajjah Aishah said Thailand would present a working paper on cooperation in curbing drug trafficking. Datuk Aishah will present a paper on the role of youths and women in national building. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 18 Jul 77 BK]

ARMY, POLICE CHECK DRUGS--The police and army are to play a more effective role in their efforts to disrupt the drug supply network in the country. This was disclosed by Datuk Jussein Bin Onn when he launched a lottery organized by the National Association Against Drug Abuse. The prime minister noted the establishment of branches of the Central Narcotics Bureau in Kelantan and Perak. The Kelantan branch of the bureau would supervise the east coast of peninsular Malaysia, while that in Perak would control the operations in the central peninsular region. Apart from this, the government would also be setting up patrol, investigation and supervision activities at all entry points into the country. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 9 Jul 77 BK]

POLICE ARREST CONCEALED HEROIN--Kuala Lumpur, 24 June (AFP)--Police found a straw containing heroin in the rectum of a man while he was being detained with several other suspects here yesterday, Bernama reported today. Police Chief, DSP [Deputy Superintendent of Police] Meir Wahid, said that the man was arrested at about 2:40 p.m. following a tip-off that he was a suspected peddler. In the investigation police found nothing on him. However, the man was taken to the Campbell police station for further investigation. While being led to a lock-up for body check, a policeman saw a plastic straw sticking out from the man's rectum. When it was pulled out, police found the straw containing heroin sufficient for 40 addicts. Syed Meir believed this was the first such incident in the country. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0836 GMT 24 Jun 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

NEPAL

NEPAL MP ASKS BAN ON NARCOTICS PRODUCTION BE LIFTED

Hong Kong AFP in English 1638 GMT 30 Jun 77 BK

[Text] Katmandu, Jun 30 (AFP)--An influential member of the National Panchayat, the highest legislative assembly, has called on the Nepalese Government to consider lifting a ban imposed on narcotic drugs production.

Mr Hari Narayan Rajaurya told the bicameral body that Nepal had lost about 70 million rupees (5.8 million dollars) a year following the ban imposed on the sale and cultivation of hemp and marihuana.

The ban, he declared, had been imposed by the Nepalese Government "to be in the good books of some developed countries." But it had made jobless many people living in the hilly far western regions.

Mr Rajaurya, who was the state minister for food and agriculture when Nepal introduced the legislation banning the sale and cultivation of the narcotic drugs, said a second thought needed to be given to the question.

Despite the ban on cultivation, top-quality hemp and marihuana grow wild in the western hilly regions where the local people use them for many purposes ranging from weaving fabrics to eating their leaves as vegetable curry.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

HEROIN CASE TO GO TO SUPREME COURT IN ROTORUA

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 4 Jun 77 p 2

[Text] A 41-year-old Chinese seaman, Lee Kwai Yeung, was committed for trial to the Supreme Court when he appeared in the Tauranga Magistrate's Court on a charge of importing heroin for sale.

During the taking of depositions before Mr D. B. Wilson, SM, Mr A. B. Kerr, a customs officer, said that acting on information that there was heroin on board the cargo ship Poyang berthed at the Port of Tauranga, members of the Customs Department searched seamen from the ship.

Mr Kerr said that on May 29 he spoke to Lee, who was coming off the ship with two girls.

Lee was searched and a packet of a pink, powdery substance was found in his sock. He was then put into a Customs Department car. Four more bags of the powder were later found under the front seat of the car, directly in front of where Lee had been sitting.

Detective L. J. Pearce, of the Tauranga CIB, said that tests by the DSIR had confirmed that the pink powder was heroin.

Mr Pearce said he interviewed Lee, who admitted that he bought the 2 and 1/2 ounces of heroin "from a rich man in Hong Kong" for \$300 and had planned to sell it for between \$500 and \$550 an ounce.

Lee told him that he had not sold heroin anywhere else in New Zealand.

"He told me that he was a poor man, with a wife and five children and a mother in Hong Kong and was only trying to make some money," said Mr Pearce.

Lee pleaded not guilty and was remanded in custody to appear in the Supreme Court at Rotorua later this month for trial.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

DRUG MISUSE ACT REPLACES NARCOTICS ACT OF 1965

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 2 Jun 77 p 5

[Text]

The new Drug Misuse Act, which replaces the Narcotics Act, 1965, comes into effect today.

prohibited plants.

The act refers to "controlled drugs" rather than "narcotics" and contains a greatly enlarged list of controlled drugs which have been divided into more classifications, with penalties tied to different classes of drug involved in an offence.

New sections of the act deal with the pharmaceutical use of drugs, the cultivation of prohibited plants and aid offences against the drug laws of other countries. It empowers courts to restrict publication of the names of drugs used by an offender.

The act also gives members of the police, who have reasonable grounds to believe a person has certain controlled drugs, to search and detain that person.

Policemen using the act's power of entry and search must give a written report to the Commissioner of Police within three days.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

CALL FOR TIGHTER DRUG WATCH

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 9 Jun 77 p 5

[Text]

PA Whakatane
New Zealand may be in danger of becoming a more attractive country for drug traffickers than some other Western nations, Mr N. J. Kirk (Lab., Sydenham) said at the opening of the Jaycee anti-drug campaign in Whakatane this week.

Mr Kirk, who has recently returned from the United States, where he studied the drug problem, said that international drug traffickers could feel that the much-improved system of drug enforcement in the United States provided them with a new incentive to traffic heroin into New Zealand and Australia.

New Zealand must be

seen to be a country that was in line with the rest of the world in terms of drug legislation so that it did not become known as an easier mark than countries which were now coming to grips with their hard-drug problem, he said.

"I certainly think that there is a strong case for New Zealand to be extra vigilant at a time when not much has changed in New Zealand but when the supply of drugs into America and Europe is becoming exceedingly more difficult."

Mr Kirk said that although New Zealand could not run its Customs facilities and "profiling" methods on the sophis-

ticated level that had been reached in North America, the introduction of electronic processing methods should be investigated.

He said that there was also not enough emphasis being put on anti-drug work in South-East Asia — the source of New Zealand's hard-drug problem.

The stationing of a narcotics liaison officer in the "golden triangle" area could be a step towards halting the flow of heroin.

The officer, from either the police drugs department or the Customs Department, would provide his New Zealand counterparts with up-to-date information on the drug flow, Mr Kirk said.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

RUNAWAYS EXPOSED TO DRINKING AND DRUGS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Jun 77 p 1

[Text]

RUNAWAY children in the Porirua area are being sheltered by local residents, and in many cases being introduced to alcohol and drugs, says the chairman for the Porirua East Maori Committee (Mr Tom Tai).

At one stage he said he had 20-23 missing children on his books.

"We know of people who are harbouring these people out of pity, and many of them don't realise what they are doing is wrong.

"The missing children's parents are coming to us because they are too scared to turn to the police. They don't like going to the police because they think once their children's name is on paper it is there for life."

Mr Tai said the runaway problem had existed for at least nine months, and was showing no signs of getting better.

"In nine out of 10 cases, females are to blame for harbouring the runaway children, and most of them seem to be solo parents.

"Most of the children are in the 13-15 age group, and we are sure alcohol and drugs are being taken at these places.

"We have incidents of young girls, no older than 14, who run away from home and become pregnant. Many others are running away from home because they are too frightened to tell their parents they are pregnant."

Mr Tai said that just a short time ago, a youth had been

found hiding in the attic of a house in conjunction with the colleges," he said.

"We knew he had been there for some time, but the person living in the house denied the youth was there. We found the youth after we had obtained a search warrant, and the woman harbouring him was charged and fined \$25.

"It appears the children are turning up at some places all the time," he said.

In a bid to solve the problem, Mr Tai said he hoped to convene some sort of seminar in the near future to find out how the problem could be solved.

"We hope to be able to work

Constable W D Drummond, of the Porirua youth aid section, said he was aware of six missing children in the Porirua area, and said the very last thing the police wanted to do was place the children in a borstal or girls' home.

"Nine out of the 10 children we place in the care of Social Welfare, we do at the request of the parents.

"It's pretty much a last resort, and we do it because we think the child will go missing again, and come to serious harm," Constable Drummond said.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

HEROIN CONFISCATIONS, PROSECUTIONS--Wellington.--A total of 1327,29 grams of heroin was confiscated by the police in the year ended March 31, the Minister of Police (Mr McCready) said yesterday. Asked by Dr I.J. Shearer (Nat., Hamilton East) what happened to the heroin after it was confiscated, Mr McCready said it was "handed in, to the best of knowledge, to the Health Department." A Health Department spokesman told N.Z.P.A. later that any drugs confiscated by the police were sent to the D.S.I.R. for testing. An analysis of the drug was always required if the police were to lay charges. Health Department officials were then called in to supervise the destruction of the drugs- either by burning, in the case of cannabis, or by dissolving heroin and other soluble drugs in water and "putting them down the drain." A small proportion of the confiscated drugs was kept for research. In reply to another question by Dr Shearer, Mr McCready said there were 2639 reported offences involving drugs last year. These resulted in 2334 prosecutions. He said that the percentage of prosecutions was high last year compared with the year before, because the police were more active in the field. [Text] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 2 Jul 77 p 1]

BAIL OF \$30,000--Bail totalling \$30,000 was set for a man who appeared in the Auckland Magistrate's Court yesterday on a charge of possessing heroin for supply. David John Marshall, aged 25, potter, of Auckland, appeared before Mr B.H. Blackwood, SM, and elected trial by jury. He was remanded to July 27 for the taking of depositions. Bail was set at \$10,000 on his own recognisance with two sureties each of \$10,000. [Text] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 1 Jul 77 p 4]

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

ARMED FORCES TO LAUNCH ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Jun 77 p 9 BK

[Text] The Singapore Armed Forces [SAF] is to launch a month-long anti-drug-abuse campaign from June 27 which will culminate in an SAF Antidrug Week from July 18.

According to the latest issue of THE PIONEER, an SAF publication, the accent of the campaign will be on control of drugs at unit level and, among other things, members will be able to borrow slides and films which "vividly portray the horrors of capture by drugs."

To combat the "enemy," units have been divided into 17 groups in our "war zones."

Units will send their men to mobile exhibitions in a zone to learn more of their "enemy." These exhibitions are now being prepared by the SAF Reservists' Association.

The drug analytical laboratory, the drug abuse rehabilitation unit and the detention barracks (all at Changi) will be open to units during the campaign.

Officers-in-charge within the units will play a major role by giving talks on drugs to their men.

Also present will be 60 volunteer paracounsellors to advise soldiers on drugs and other problems.

The SAF music and drama company will put up a musical sketch for their road shows which will portray the misadventures of a drug addict.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

FINE FOR HEROIN--Ong Choon Teng, 26, was fined \$1,000 by a magistrate's court yesterday for having 0.04 grams of heroin at Block 55, Yung An Road in Jurong on June 4. He pleaded guilty. [Text] [Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Jun 77 p 11 BK]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

KRIANGSAK ASKS FOR U.S., UN FUNDS FOR CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jul 77 p 8

[Thai Deputy Supreme Commander Kriangsok Chamanan's 7 July Speech to the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand on Human Rights, Insurgency, and Drugs]

[Excerpts] As journalists, you know that there is great excitement among the democracies over human rights. I don't understand why. In Thailand, we were excited about them a long time ago. We have struggled for human rights and will continue to do so to maintain them. However, we are faced with three major problems which we cannot avoid.

The third problem, of course, is drugs. Thailand is doing its best to fight the traffic in narcotics. The government considers it a top priority project, and I give it my full support. We are sacrificing money, men, materials and time to combat this evil.

We are cooperating with the Burmese Government in fighting the drugs originating in the so-called "Golden Triangle." We hope that the United States and other Western countries, as well as the United Nations, will provide funds for substitute crop programmes which is the only way to get at the root of the problem.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

OVER 10,000 RAI OF POPPY TO BE REPLACED IN NEXT 5 YEARS

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 29 Jun 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Over 100,000 rai of land in the northern provinces where poppies are currently planted will be replaced by other crops, according to the National Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Board (NNPSB).

NNPSB deputy secretary general, Mr Likit Thoetsatirasak estimated that about 112,000 rai of land in six basins of Ping, Kok, Mae Tang, Mae Ngat, Mae Cham and Nan rivers in four provinces of Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son and Nan are areas where poppy cultivation is being carried out by tribesmen.

Mae Cham basin in Chiang Mai, he said, will be the first place to be replaced by other crops and it is anticipated that the entire area where poppies are planted will be filled with other crops within the next 5 years.

Mae Cham basin comprises a huge area of 4,553 square kilometers but only a certain part of the area is used for cultivating poppies, Mr Likit said.

Other offices concerned, he cited, will also be instructed to cooperate in the development of tribesmen in education, health and economic aspects.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

NARCOTICS OFFICIAL ON DRUG ABUSE AMONG STUDENTS, MONKS

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 4 Jul 77 BK

[Press interview with Secretary General of Narcotics Suppression Board
Pramuk Sawatdimongkhon--date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pramuk] The exact number of addicts nationwide is not available. It is estimated that there are between 300,000 and 500,000 addicts throughout the country. We have never been able to verify the exact number, but we have tried to learn the number of addicts in specific groups of people. For instance, we have attempted to check the number of addicts among students seeking to further their education in universities.

[Question] How many of those students had taken drugs?

[Answer] Out of some 64,000 students tested, only about 200 of them had traces of drugs in their urine. This is a relatively small figure. Next we will test vocational students, and if we have enough funds and manpower, we will test the secondary school students, those in the last 3 years of high school.

[Question] Are you certain that the students who took urine test were honest? Did some try to adulterate their urine?

[Answer] We took precautionary measures to prevent such attempts.

[Question] Can you discuss the report that some monks take drugs?

[Answer] We have information that some monks take drugs, but there are very few of them. Some of them were addicts before they became monks. They tried to cure their habits by becoming monks, but some did not succeed and thus took drugs again. There are also student addicts who became monks and novices with the hope of curing their habits, but many of them do not have the willpower to completely kick the habit.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

FOREIGN 'HIPPIES' CREATE DRUG PROBLEM IN SOUTHERN RESORT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Jun 77 p 5 BK

[Text] Phuket--The illegal use of drugs has become a common practice among the large number of low-budget foreign travellers visiting here, resulting in a bigger headache for local police authorities who are already short of personnel.

A high-ranking police officer pointed out that the most common drug used by the travellers, better referred to as "hippies" by the locals, is marihuana and can be bought in large quantities at cheap prices. The officer pointed out that some of the islands off the coast here were the main marihuana-growing sources as the "ganja" has long been used by the local fishermen who go out on long fishing missions to the high seas. The officer lamented that with the advent of the tourist age, Phuket's policemen still numbered more or less the same as in the past, and under the present situation it is virtually impossible for the police to keep an eye on all beaches at the same time.

Occasional raids have been made on beaches frequented by foreign visitors, and one recent raid at the Nai Han beach, some 16 kilometers away from the provincial town in the direction of the famous Rawai Beach, netted a large quantity of marihuana.

The officer appealed to the Police Department and other concerned authorities in Bangkok to consider assigning more police officials to this island. He urged that the newly established tourist police force should send a team of tourist police to this province, at least on a trial basis.

Chief of the Tourist Organization of Thailand (TOT) Phuket branch, Narong Phonphirikunchai told the BANGKOK POST in a recent interview that the TOT is totally supporting the suppression against drugs. "I have told the police authorities to get tough against drug users, assuring them that any action would not in the least affect the promotion of tourism here," Narong said.

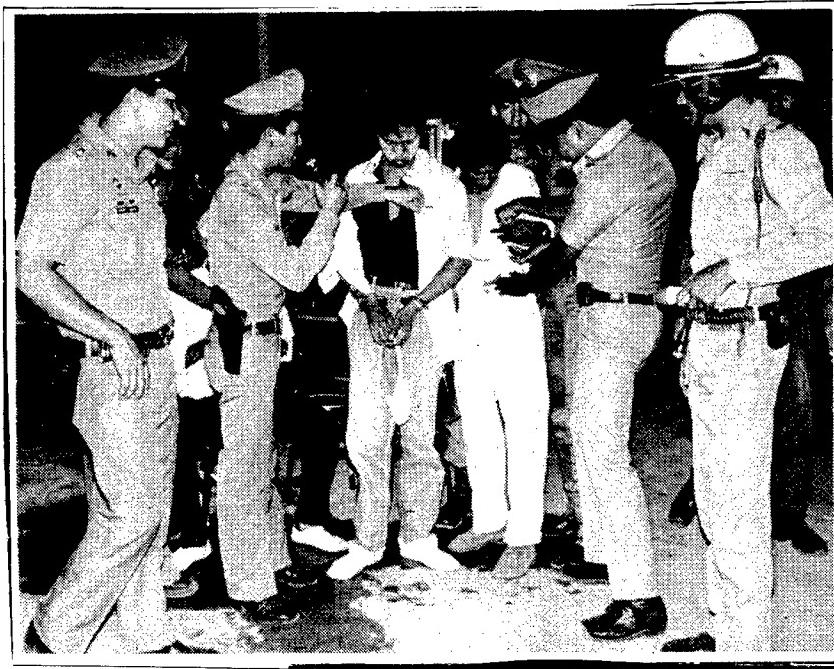
CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BANGKOK POLICE SEARCH YOUTHS, FIND HEROIN

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 29 Jun 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Huai Khwang police make body search of youths at a make-shift foodstall on the Asoke-Din Daeng Road last night, in an effort to crack down on crimes. Allegedly found on the four youths were two tubes of heroin. The youths, identified later as Suchat Suphong, Somchai Sutsawai, Somsak Suphon, and Yusop Badobo, were later taken in custody. They said they were going to join with their friends on a weekend trip to Bang Pa-in.



CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

CARTER THANKS TO KRAIWICHIAN--The U.S. Embassy in Thailand has forwarded a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter addressed to Prime Minister Thanin Kraiwichian. The message expresses the U.S. President's thanks and gratitude for the Thai Prime Minister's active narcotics prevention and suppression efforts. In the message, the U.S. President stated that he had been informed by Dr Peter Bourne, the presidential advisor on narcotics, following his visit to Thailand to attend the East Asian Regional Narcotics Conference on 14 and 15 April, that in addition to the prime minister's determination to solve the narcotics problems, he had also achieved progress in his attempts to prevent the cultivation of narcotics-yielding plants and drug trafficking. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 22 Jun 77 BK]

WOMAN SMUGGLING HEROIN INTO JAIL--A 27-year-old woman was arrested Saturday on charges of attempting to smuggle heroin, hidden in a rambutan, to her addict sister in the cell in Bangyirua police station, police said. Mrs Bunyong Yimlao, police said, concealed 5 grammes of heroin No 4 estimated to be worth about 100 baht, in one of the rambutans which was contained with others in a bag. The rambutan was cut into half and the seed inside was replaced by the heroin, both halves were attached together by a pin. The police guard said he uncovered the heroin when he checked the food taken by a visitor to a detainee and became suspicious when he saw the pin on one of the rambutans. Bunyong, who confessed to the charges, said she pitied her sister, who was in need of the drug. Her sister, identified as Payon, was detained on charges of drug possession. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 27 Jun 77 p 3 BK]

MARIHUANA BURNING--Sakhon Nakhon--More than a ton of marihuana worth about 1 million baht has been burnt by police here, while another ton is awaiting the conclusion of court cases. The drug, according to police, was seized while en route from Nakhon Phanom Province to Bangkok. According to police, Nakhon Phanom is the largest marihuana growing province in the northeast. "It is second only to rice there," said a senior police officer. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 27 Jun 77 p 3 BK]

NARCOTICS BOARD ACTIVITY--The meeting of the Narcotics Control Board on 23 June agreed to jointly hold a seminar with the Department of Medical Services for

all persons concerned with treatment of drug addicts so as to set down definite standards for all drug treatment centers. The Ministry of Public Health is also assigned by the board to draw up a preliminary set of standards for clinics to treat addicts. The Narcotics Control Board also agreed to launch a large-scale opium crop substitution project of the Mae Chan River basin in Chiang Mai with where a big area of opium is said to be growing. With this project, all hill tribesmen are expected to discontinue opium cultivation within 5 years. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 25 Jun 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

EDITORIAL ON SOLUTION OF HEROIN PROBLEM

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 28 Jun 77 p 4

[Editorial: "The Heroin Solution"]

[Text]

Opposition leader David Barrett's call in the legislature for an experiment in providing free heroin to addicts deserves better consideration than the brush-off Attorney-General Garde Gardom attempted to give it.

The idea is not new. Nor is the fact that there are at least as many people who are afraid of it as there are who believe it would work. But for Mr. Gardom to dismiss it as "the ultimate folly" does not solve the heroin addiction problem.

Nothing that has been tried in the last 20 years has done anything to solve that problem. There are now six times as many addicts in Canada as there were in the 1950s, and most of them are in British Columbia. The cost — in crimes committed by addicts to support their habit, in police investigation of drug-related crimes, in prosecutions, in keeping traffickers and criminal addicts in jail — is staggering.

If Mr. Gardom is not prepared to try the solution proposed by Mr. Barrett — and several years ago by the LeDain Commission on the Non-Medical Use of Drugs and

more recently by Detective Ian Polley of the Co-ordinated Law Enforcement Unit — then what is he going to do?

Health Minister Robert McClelland was talking some months ago of making heroin addiction illegal. That is an equally frightening alternative that has been tried — with some success, according to Dr. Conrad Schwarz of St. Paul's Hospital — in Japan. If the government still has this in mind, it should speak up.

Certainly things should not be allowed to drift along as they are. And whatever method the government chooses to attack the problem, it must have some evidence that it is the best method available.

We hesitate to suggest another commission of inquiry: this government has appointed so many that we've lost count. But perhaps it should appoint some kind of panel of experts — a doctor, say, an addict, a sociologist and a policeman with knowledge of the drug problem but a minimum of preconceptions about it — to look at all the possibilities, to examine the results of programs tried in

England and Japan and other places and to advise the authorities on the best course.

The solution to the heroin problem isn't going to be easy to find. It will require open minds, careful investigation, sound judgment and a good deal of luck. A pat, biased, partisan answer in the legislature isn't going to achieve anything.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

BRIEFS

COCAINE, MARIHUANA SEIZED--About \$125,000 worth of cocaine and marijuana has been seized and 32 persons arrested by Burnaby RCMP at the conclusion of a six month investigation by an undercover officer. Warrants have also been issued for the arrest of 25 other persons in connection with the alleged trafficking offences. The 32 arrested appeared Monday in Burnaby provincial court and were remanded in custody until today. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 14 Jun 77 p 31]

TWO FACE DRUG TRIAL--Army and Navy store heir Jeffrey Cohen, 25, and Linda Aldeline Fox, 29, were committed Friday for trial on charges of possession of cocaine. Cohen, of 3649 Cameron, and Fox appeared before provincial Judge David Moffett for a preliminary hearing that lasted barely two hours. The two were charged with possession of 25 grams of cocaine last December. A ban on publication of evidence during the hearing was imposed by the court on application by Cohen's lawyer, Thomas Dohm, and Fox's lawyer, James Hogan. Bail of \$25,000 continues for Cohen until the high court trial commences. Fox is free on bail of \$10,000. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 18 Jun 77 p 38]

POLICE SEIZE POT, COCAINE--Police believe they have cracked a marijuana distribution centre in Vancouver's West End following the seizure Thursday of 2 1/2 pounds of marijuana and an ounce of cocaine from a rooming house on Cardero. Police said they observed the exchange of large sums of money in a bank account and, during the raid, discovered the drugs along with scales and other paraphernalia. Charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking and possession of a prohibited weapon is Clement Desilet, 32, of Montreal. Charged with possession of a dangerous weapon is Michel Robitaille, 30, also of Montreal. Charged with possession of marijuana is Taro Sakamoto, 28, of no fixed address. Desilet was remanded in provincial court Friday to an appearance Tuesday and Robitaille to an appearance next Friday. Also charged with possession of marijuana is Maurice Vibert from Manitoba. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 18 Jun 77 p 100]

HASHISH, GRASS UP IN SMOKE--Dartmouth, N.S. (CP)--RCMP stood guard Monday as 6 1/2 tons of marijuana and hashish went up in smoke at the city dump. The drugs, worth an estimated \$14 million on the illegal drug market, were

seized May 28 from a yacht at Chester, N.S. Three Canadians and three residents of the United States were arrested in connection with the seizure and face charges of importing narcotics into Canada. Police cordoned off the dump before setting the bales alight. It took officers more than two hours to unload the drugs from a five-ton truck and a van. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 21 Jun 77 p 34]

FIVE ARRESTED IN DRUG SEIZURE--Ottawa (CP)--The RCMP have arrested five persons in connection with what a spokesman described as the largest hashish seizure ever made in North America. A combined RCMP, Toronto drug squad and U.S. drug enforcement agency investigation ended with the recent seizure of two metric tons--about 4,400 pounds--of hashish at the port of New York. The spokesman said the drugs would have a street retail value of \$8 million. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 24 Jun 77 p 2]

LINK WITH NARCOTICS DISTRIBUTION--A Windsor man has been linked with a multimillion dollar U.S. narcotics distribution ring which allegedly bought and sold illegal drugs from coast to coast. Joseph Ofner, 28, of Windsor, was charged with more than 30 others "with possessing and conspiring to distribute millions of doses of LSD, PCP (phencyclidine), phendermine and cocaine." According to a Detroit news report, Ofner was already being held by Canadian authorities when the new charges were laid. However, this could not be confirmed by area police. The arrests climaxed a 1 1/2-year investigation by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration DEA. Agents seized or made undercover purchases of millions of doses of PCP and LSD during the investigation, explained Theodore Vernier, regional director of the DEA. More than a pound of cocaine also was seized. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 2 Jul 77 p 4]

CSO: 5320

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED--Santa Cruz, 18 Jun. The police have broken up a ring of drug traffickers in this city which was distributing cocaine locally in small portions, according to information released by the Departmental Directorate of Narcotics. Maj Edgar Bustillos, chief of the Narcotics Office, said that the ring had been discovered some days earlier when its agents carried out a "surprise" action and broken up a local ring whose principal members had been caught "red-handed." Bustillos said that during this action which took place at the home of Ermenegildo Barba Rojas, the police found 300 grams of cocaine sulfate "ready for packaging and distribution." On the same day and in connection with the same group, the police confiscated 17 matchboxes filled with cocaine. It was deduced that this is one of the ways in which the drug is camouflaged for distribution. The person responsible for the manufacture of the drug for this ring was identified by the police as Hernando Sanchez Rojas who was operating in a place known as "Los Almendros," according to the police. Barba Rojas and Sanchez Rojas are being held in prison along with a third man who is implicated in the case, Iver Algaranaz Rojas. The Narcotics chief said that all of the required paperwork is being completed for dispatch to the civil court. [Text] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Jun 77 p 11] 8143

AUTHORITIES PREVENT TRAFFICKER'S ARREST--Cochabamba, 18 Jun. The lack of cooperation on the part of a number of authorities at the level of directors of educational institutions prevented police agents from capturing a woman who was selling bags of cocaine. Some time ago, the Directorate of Narcotics had received a complaint to the effect that a girl student in one of the schools had been given the opportunity of buying a small envelope containing several grams of cocaine. Unfortunately, the girl's mother did not wish to supply additional information; and this thwarted the arrest of the trafficker who, it is known, left the country. The local police have all the information concerning this woman. Despite the seriousness of this crime, she apparently was making a lot of money. The woman is said to be in the United States, and the initial steps have been taken to arrest her. Elsewhere, a new cocaine factory was discovered recently in the region of San Francisco, Chapare province. When the place was raided, the police arrested three persons who were processing cocaine. [Text] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Jun 77 p 10] 8143

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

REPORTER POSES AS ADDICT, PENETRATES RIO COCAINE UNDERWORLD

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4, 5, 6, 7 Jun 77

[Article by Victor Combothanassis: "Finding Out About Drug Traffic in Drug Addiction Treatment Center"]

[4 Jun 77, p 13]

[Text] Posing as a patient, a GLOBO reporter was hospitalized in a drug addiction treatment center for 10 days and succeeded in making the necessary arrangements to penetrate the reportedly closed circle of cocaine traffickers in Rio.

With a temporary pass to take care of his "business affairs" in Sao Paulo, the reporter left the center and gained the cooperation of detective Jamil Warwar--with previous authorization from the director of the Special Police Department, Waldemar Gomes de Castro--to officially survey the underlying mechanisms of the narcotics traffic.

Having gained information and recommendations from one of the patients, the reporter and the detective--one posing as the financial backer and the other as his advisor--made various contacts with middlemen who were lured by the prospect of generous commission fees. Among these, the most important because of his exhaustive knowledge of the milieu and the "right people," was Waldemar Barbosa da Silva, known as Bola, the driver of Nilton da Costa, one of the commissioners at the Narcotics Department, who knew nothing of his subordinate's activities.

It was through Bola that Jamil, as the agent of "Foreign Moneybags" (the reporter), succeeded in purchasing 150 g of cocaine for 30,000 cruzeiros. At the appointed time last Wednesday, the transaction took place at 1600 hours in a house at 31 Barbosa Silva Street, next to the Rocha station, a neighborhood in the northern zone of Rio. At the time, the entire area was surrounded by the detective's team, as well as by a special tactical group. At 1610 hours, after the transaction took place, there was gunfire and five persons were arrested, two women and three men, one of them Bola.

The case was processed at the Narcotics Department in the Alto da Boa Vista. On the basis of the arrests and the information revealed by the five individuals charged--mainly names and addresses given by Bola--there have already been at least 20 arrests, large quantities of cocaine from Santa Cruz de la Sierra in Bolivia have been seized in different parts of Rio, and the arrest of the leader of the ring, who lives in Botafogo, is expected momentarily. According to Bola, the financial dealings of this individual--who has already been identified--amount to 500,000 cruzeiros per day for the cocaine traffic alone in the southern zone of Rio.

Two other individuals, Frenchman Jean Paul Raymond Lorrain and Chilean Gaston Andres Aracibia Urrutia, both residents of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, were arrested in a quick operation right on Avenida Atlantica, almost in front of the Copacabana Palace Hotel. They had contacted the reporter, whom they believed to be a trafficker, and were seated in his car, when the vehicle was surrounded by Jamil Warwar and his team. About 500 g of cocaine brought from Bolivia were left in a Brazilian citizen's apartment in Copacabana, who has not been identified as yet.

The purchase of another 150 g of cocaine had been arranged by Bola at the villa of officials of the Benjamin Constant Institute for the Blind on Lauro Muller Street in Urca. During this transaction, Jamil almost lost his life (while the transaction did not, in the end, take place "because of the price: it had become necessary to haggle over it until the strategy of the entrapment could be worked out"): alone, surrounded by seven men in the last house on the right side of this villa, there was a moment of distrust; however, the detective made a counter proposal whereby he would barter cocaine for smuggled merchandise (whiskey and watches), "because it was Saturday and Foreign Money-bags had been taken by surprise and had already invested his funds in another deal for the week-end, and banks were closed."

As was to be expected, the traffickers did not agree to the barter.

The previous evening, the reporter himself was almost arrested, and for a few moments, he thought that the whole operation was going down the drain: he was sitting on his motorcycle with an addict on the back seat, contacting some middlemen at the corner of Visconde de Pirajá and Henrique Drummond Streets in Ipanema, when a car pulled up with three policemen in it. Jamil, the GLOBO photographer and other members of the team were in another car, but almost 100 meters away so as not to awaken any suspicion. The policemen approached the group, but luckily for the operation, their interest was focused on something else: that particular spot is a center for a numbers game, and one of the bettors gave the policeman at the wheel a one-hundred cruzeiro note, after which the trio left.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

"Victor Abdala, 40, is a naturalized Brazilian of Argentinian origin, Sao Paulo industrialist, bachelor, athlete. He practices judo and is an international tennis player. A playboy, at age 35, unable to reconcile the pressures of a disorderly bohemian life with tennis, he started taking stimulant

drugs. He eventually became an addict and ended up experimenting with stronger drugs, especially cocaine and LSD. The lack of drugs produced deep feelings of anxiety in him and during these crises, he became very irritable and at times even violent. The day he was hospitalized he had an altercation with a former patient. Medication and treatment started to take effect on the third day. He is beginning to be sociable and is giving classes in self-defense to a group of patients, but his behavior continues to be unpredictable."

This is an extract from the GLOBO reporter's fabricated file. Included in it, besides "personal data," are the diagnosis and the "personality aberrations" according to the progress of the "treatment." Some of the information was provided by his "brother," a colleague at the GLOBO, who committed him to the center. He explained that it was a "difficult case" and asked for "special treatment."

The reporter tells his story:

The guilt feelings which could have resulted from the "hoax" soon disappeared after the first few days of hospitalization: I suffered pangs of hunger (my "psychopathic personality" forbade me to eat much), I had to pretend I was swallowing the medication (and this had to be done before the vigilant eyes of the male nurses, who already seemed like executioners to me by the second day), and what was worse, I had to get out of bed every morning at 0530 hours to exercise and teach the rudiments of self-defense to a group who, fortunately for me, got out of breath before I did; but I was supposed to be an "athlete" and this was the only way; I could not even stop playing constant ball games with the nurses. But I derived sweet revenge from the fact that my right drive continues in top shape, so that my poor partners used to tire more from running after the ball than from just playing."

"On the fifth day, I was beginning already to feel a little like the fellow portrayed by Jack Nicholson in the movie "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," and I even had nightmares that, before this whole affair would blow over, I would have a lobotomy which would turn me into a vegetable. Actually, the fact is that among those drug addicts--all of them adolescents--my appearance struck a discordant note, and this is why I had to find the right balance through a convincing interpretation, since everyone used to look upon me with distrust."

"As it is, my performance must have been rather good, because, by the sixth day, a group of five addicts was prodding me to tell them "my adventures."

"I avoided asking questions, and in the beginning, when someone would spontaneously confide in me, I would cut him short. I tried to make it very clear that no member of the group could even compare his prowess to mine. They were fascinated by the stories of my travels through Europe, North Africa, the Middle East; of course, I did not mention that my travels had been in connection with my journalistic duties."

"But my main achievement is the fact that I learned so much about cocaine and the places where it is produced. Having written the series of articles on "Brazil, the Smugglers' Corridor" for the GLOBO a little over a year ago, when I traveled around Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and the northern part of Argentina, I had acquired the kind of experience that put me at a great advantage over the group, especially when I talked about Santa Cruz de la Sierra and its Siete Calles market, and about the train ride from Santa Cruz de la Sierra to Corumba. At least three in the group had already been there and this was the starting point for frequent discussions about cocaine and hallucinogenic routes in Latin America."

"The group was becoming impatient. They could not resist any longer the urge to recount their experiences to me. And this is when I became an attentive listener.

Exchange of Experiences

The center's routine may be important in the treatment of the patients. But for someone who has never experimented with any drugs, and whose only addiction is to cigarettes, the least that can be said is that the center's daily life is a big bore.

Breakfast at 0700 hours after a cold shower (this is very important to relieve the feeling of anxiety experienced by the addict). At 0800 hours comes the first series of medicines of all colors, sizes and shapes. And everything must be swallowed in the presence of the nurses. At 1000 hours, more medicines and at 1100 hours, it is time for a frugal lunch (which is very much like the diet followed by members of the Hare Krishna sect). At 1300 hours, medicines again. One hour later, a snack (juice with bread and butter). At 1400 hours, more medicines. At 1700 hours, dinner is served, at 1900 hours a soft drink and at 2000 hours everyone is back in their rooms, locked from the outside to prevent escapes.

The rest of the day, "dolce far niente" is the rule. I cut down on the physical training of the group--I could not, however, avoid the 0530 exercises--and I prodded my "followers" into "intellectual discussions." After all, even with all my "experience," it was always important to exchange techniques on the subject in which we were experts.

Of the five in the group, I tried to concentrate on the most cultured and experienced, who happened to be my roommate. As I was "from Sao Paulo" and had almost "no acquaintances" in Rio, he began teaching me about the world of drugs in the southern zone of Rio and its suburbs.

This is how names, places, passwords, drug prices, artificial manipulation of prices and some traffickers' tricks to cheat addicts started emerging (Jorge Badanho, for instance, usually sells bicarbonate "papers" [papelotes--individual doses of hard drugs] to casual customers--he is the manager of the numbers game controlled by the "banker" China in Copacabana--although

he always has the real stuff for regular customers, even if it is of the worse quality, mixed with additives to increase the volume of the paper.

From another addict, I learned that there is a group in Ipanema that preys on adolescents addicted to cocaine. Four of these impersonate Federal Police agents: two are former lifeguards (Dico and Deco, twins; one of them was working until recently either at the Sheraton or the Intercontinental Hotel); the third is Luis da Barba who works in Leblon and the fourth is a state policeman known as Mano.

They form a sinister quartet (a team from the Narcotics Department is already on their trail). One of their more recent exploits was a raid they made at an addict's apartment in the southern zone when, posing, as Federal Police agents with false identification papers, they took three kilos of marihuana and 18,000 cruzeiros. They missed out, however, on 50 grs of cocaine, because the addict, convinced they were real policemen, poured the powder into the toilet before opening the door. It is better to get busted for marihuana than for cocaine.

A bit later, the young addict found out they were not police agents and that he had been betrayed by his cousin, another addict, angry at him because he had not been offered a bit of the powder for free. The addict told this reporter and detective Jamil Warwar (thinking that they were both addicts) that "he would be willing to talk to the police of his own free will and file formal charges against the four, provided, of course, he be given the necessary guarantees."

Initiation

If only bureaucratic formalities and orthodox methods would be disregarded, the special police in charge of the narcotics prevention program could obtain more satisfactory results. Or at least this is the evidence derived from more than 10 days' work with detective Jamil. Certainly there are risks involved, but these are just part of any policeman's routine work.

For the person who has never lived with a group of addicts trying through almost superhuman efforts to free themselves from their dependency on drugs, the experience of living in a treatment center is really compelling.

My group included a 17-year old youth, son of an independent professional with a university education, who was initiated into the cocaine world when he was 10. The first time he snorted cocaine was at a children's dance in the Grajau Tennis Club. He was with a group of youngsters from 12 to 14 years of age, and one of them started the experiment.

The boy liked it and at the next dance asked a friend "how to buy it." He was introduced to a trafficker and paid him 25 cruzeiros for a bag (this is 1970). As he tells it: "I went to the bathroom to snort it, but the powder looked strange, different from the last time. The other had been rather bitter and left a feeling of numbness on the tip of my tongue. This one was sweet.

I asked a friend who knew more about these things, and he explained to me that what I had bought as cocaine was actually sugar."

And he concludes, with all the authority of someone who, a year ago, held up a jewelry store at gunpoint, after he had finished stealing every valuable he could find in his own home:

"This was the only time I was taken in. After that, I really showed my mettle. And I taught many a scoundrel a good lesson."

He truly exhibits a profound knowledge of the quality of drugs, and he can actually detect impurities simply by touch.

It took six years for his widowed father to find out his son was an addict; he only learned of it when he was arrested. He then decided to have him hospitalized. He is nearing the end of his treatment, is already allowed to spend week-ends at home and could be released at the end of the month. The physicians believe he is cured. But no one dares hazard a guess, whether this cure is final or temporary, and whether the youth will return to the center once again for future treatment.

Another drug addict, scion of a family in business in an important tourist center of the Regiao dos Lagos, is also nearing the end of his hospitalization. He is 23--has been an addict since he was 16--and his is a delicate case. The abuse of narcotics, mainly marihuana, has had an effect on his system and has affected his mental processes. He has periodic crises that leave part of his body paralyzed; this can happen any time, especially if he gets excited over something.

His initiation into the drug culture came at the time when his father owned a restaurant and he tried his first marihuana cigarette he got from an addict in exchange for a plateful of food. He started enjoying it. Soon, food was not enough to get the drug. So he began stealing money from his father's cash register. His needs grew and he ended up burglarizing 17 summer residences in just one season.

But of course, it wasn't a matter of just marihuana any longer. He was shooting hallucinogens and he finally got into cocaine through the son of a nationally known Rio politician. This young man, also an addict, organized orgies during protracted week-ends, which culminated in cocaine. However, the price of this drug being higher than gold, the price of the "little parties" was financed through the distribution of part of the powder, which was then resold at a profit.

The files of all drug addiction treatment centers bulge with tens of moving cases. And according to statistics, the coveted final cure is not always achieved. From all observations, recovery from addiction does not depend on the physician or the treatment. What is more important is the patients' determination. As an example, here are two extreme cases: a young addict, son of a military family, was able to overcome his addiction and is now a commercial pilot; a Navy petty officer (who believes he is a commander and

demands to be treated as such) had to have a frontal lobotomy (an incision in the white substance of the frontal lobes of the brain; a drastic treatment for schizophrenic patients).

Both cases occurred in the same treatment center where this reporter was hospitalized.

[5 Jun 77, p 20]

[Text] The treatment which the GLOBO reporter underwent in a drug treatment center to glean information about the drug traffic in Rio, had to be hastily interrupted on the 10th day. An unexpected development required an immediate change in plans: two traffickers from Bolivia had just arrived in Rio with 500 grs of cocaine; it was vitally important to contact them before they were spotted by a certain group or could meet with them.

In this group were included some individuals--whose names were obtained in the treatment center--whom the reporter (posing as a trafficker) and detective Jamil Warwar (his companion in the investigation they would conduct in the narcotics underworld) had to locate. No member of this group was supposed to find out that the two traffickers, Jean Paul and Gaston Andres, were in Rio.

Fighting against time, and following a painful wait next to a telephone during one whole night and part of the next day, the reporter and the police agent at long last made contact with the traffickers. On a grey evening, the reporter was able to make an appointment on Avenida Atlantica, and a little later, as had been previously planned with Jamil, a group of heavily armed police agents arrested the two, under the pretext of being after the reporter. Thus, another link in the powerful chain of drug traffickers was broken.

A "Bolivian Connection" in the Heart of the Southern Zone

The arrival in Brazil of the two traffickers from Santa Cruz de la Sierra caused a hasty change in plans. I was able to send a message to the colleague posing as my brother, who had committed me to the institution, and he undertook to have me discharged in a hurry under some kind of pretext.

He convinced the institution's administrators that "my presence was urgently needed in Sao Paulo in connection with business problems." My "brother" said he would be responsible for me, especially in regard to the medication "which had to be taken at the appointed times so as not to interrupt the treatment."

I had already had the names of the two traffickers: Jean Paul Raymond Lorrain (French) and Gaston Andres Arancibia Urrutia (Chilean). I also had the name of their contact in Brazil, his address and Post Office box number. Jean Paul and Gaston arrived in Rio with 500 grs of cocaine and were supposed to conclude the deal without delay and leave. It was agreed with their contact

that prior information about their arrival would be received through the Post Office box. The message was actually sent, but the Rio contact did not receive it. He was away from Rio, suffering serious health problems.

Time was of the essence, and besides, the work I was doing had to be officially approved. This could only be done by someone who possessed "police powers." Moreover, here was a shipment of half a kilo of cocaine ready to be put on the market.

Enter now detective Jamil Warwar, chief of the 2nd Section of Investigations of the Homicide Department. With prior authorization from the director of the Special Police Department, Waldemar Gomes de Castro, he agreed to accompany the reporter in an incursion through the labyrinthine paths leading to the various drug trafficking groups in Rio. He selected three trusted agents: Jamile Mamede, Homero Fleming and Dilson Constantino--while commissioner Gomes de Castro mobilized an investigation group which used even special equipment, to increase the margin of security.

It was agreed that Jamil and the reporter would proceed with the infiltration and that the detective's group would be the liaison between us and the tactical command personnel (the special group).

The Problem

However, a persistent problem could endanger the success of the whole operation: the unexpected--for us--arrival of the two traffickers from Santa Cruz de la Sierra. It was necessary to locate them and immediately put them out of circulation, before they started asking questions, which could awaken the suspicion of a certain sector about the disappearance of their contact. This simply would not do and would alert the other contacts we had decided to make.

With an addict's help, we were able to get into the apartment of Jean Paul and Andre's contact. We knew that they had no money--which was indicative of the fact that they had not yet disposed of the cocaine--because they were not staying at the hotel any longer. Patiently, we waited for the phone to ring during one whole night and part of the next day. At 1500 hours, the phone rang. I answered it, with Jamil listening in. At the other end of the line, a distressed Jean Paul was trying to get in touch with his Brazilian friend. I was familiar with some details of his affairs, and in a brief conversation in Spanish, we made an appointment at the corner of Avenida Atlantica and Duvivier Street. I would drive by in a blue car to pick them up and they would be identified by their jeans outfits. The agreement was that I would take them to their contact.

The meeting was set for 15 minutes after the phone call. Jamil immediately called the two teams and told them to be ready. It was agreed that we--the two traffickers and I--would be arrested at the Aterro do Flamengo, on the way to Cabo Frio. The police agents would convey the impression that they were after me; my companions would also be arrested because they just happened to be with me.

The sky was overcast and rain was in the air, and the cold wind from the ocean left Avenida Atlantica practically deserted on the beach side. Driving slowly, even before reaching the corner of Duvivier Street, I had spotted the two individuals. I stopped, signaled to both and opened the door, lowering the front seat. The two traffickers were surprised, but I explained that we had to leave in a hurry.

We introduced ourselves in the car. Jean Paul, the more suspicious of the two, wanted to know where his contact was. I said that he was in Cabo Frio and that we were on our way there. Still fearful, he said that he first had to go by an acquaintance's house to "get the things." It could be the cocaine. But it could also mean that they had decided to escape, since they had not met in the car the person they were hoping to see.

Instead of entering Princesa Isabel Avenue and proceed through the tunnel toward the Aterro do Flamengo, as had been planned, I decided to continue driving to the end of the beach, in Leme, to let Jamil know that something unexpected had come up; the pair were suspicious, and if armed, they could shoot me and then escape. But by the time we reached the end of the beach, we were already fast friends. So much so, in fact, that when we stopped at a red light before entering Princesa Isabel Avenue, Gaston was already calmly snorting cocaine in the back seat. And this is when everything happened, so rapidly that the scene could only have been caught by a movie camera.

The Arrests

Six policemen, four of them armed with machine guns and the other two with Luger guns, surrounded our car. We were literally plucked out of the vehicle. Jamile and Homero, the strongest ones, took charge of me. There was no doubt that they put on a very "convincing" performance. The other four policemen overcame the traffickers.

All this right on Avenida Atlantica, at 3:30 p.m. Before being thrown into the back of the car, I had time to hear a woman screaming "Help, this is a kidnap!" But the action was very rapid. The wheel of my car was taken by Homero, with Jamile holding a gun on me, while the other two were put in the back seat of the second car.

There was only a minuscule sample of cocaine on the back seat of my car. Of the half kilo they were hoping to sell in Rio, not a trace. When they had left the hotel, they had been in the apartment of two women who live on Julio de Castilhos Street in Copacabana--one of them called Gina, who had also been in Bolivia, where she had met Jean Paul. Despite the fact that both are addicts, they did not have the drug. It had been left at another Brazilian's residence, also in Copacabana, and at this point, must already have been distributed in Rio.

The case is already in the hands of the Narcotics Department, following an order from the director of the Special Police Department. However, what goes on inside this department constitutes an unfathomable mystery. The rule over there is not to give out any information to the press. It is known, nevertheless, that the pair are still being interrogated and that in the end, they will be deported.

Jean Paul, who builds swimming pools and other projects in Santa Cruz de la Sierra together with Gaston, has been selling cocaine to Brazilians for at least three years. But he had never been in Brazil before. The sales were made to Brazilians who go to Bolivia in search of drugs.

Toward the end of last year, two Brazilian addicts were in Santa Cruz de la Sierra to buy cocaine and became acquainted with Jean Paul who, at that time, was managing a local club. They had gone to get the drug at the source and meant to bring it back to Rio, where one part would be sold to liquidate expenses, while the rest would be intended for private use.

The Connection

It was then that one of the two Brazilians proposed a direct transaction: he would attempt to organize a distribution ring in the Regiao dos Lagos, with Buzios as a center of operations, and Jean Paul would plan the supplying end. The operation would be conducted with the utmost caution, not because of fear of the police, but so that the "big shots" of the Rio traffic would not uncover the deal and attempt to eliminate the competition.

All necessary precautions were taken, even to the point of the two Brazilians not leaving behind any proof of their visit to Bolivia, which is indicative of the fact that both were already planning this deal before leaving Brazil. To enter Bolivia from Brazil, one has to have a visa on the passport (for the other four countries, entrance requires only an identification card and a vaccination certificate).

Even so, both were able to reach Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 700 kms from the border at Corumba, without any documents. Their identification card allowed them to reach Puerto Suarez, the Bolivian city next to Corumba. From that point on, however, one can only get on the train, at least from Puerto Suarez, with a passport.

They therefore had recourse to a system very popular with Brazilians who prefer to enter Bolivia without leaving any traces; they rented a taxicab in the free zone of Puerto Suarez and were driven to a couple of stations ahead; they then bribed the stationmaster with 500 cruzeiros and got on a freight car. The same system was followed on the way back. Since documents are only examined at Puerto Suarez or at a point nearer the border, in Quijarro, they got off the train at the same station they had gotten on and then rented a car. It took them safely to Puerto Suarez and from there, like any other Brazilian tourist without a passport, they got on a cab and drove to Corumba, from where they flew to Rio.

At least two letters were exchanged between Jean Paul and the Brazilian and they agreed on the start of the operation. The date of departure would be communicated through a message sent to the Brazilian's Post Office box. The message was indeed sent, but the Brazilian was not in Rio to receive it. This is why Jean Paul and Gaston attempted for at least three days to locate their Brazilian contact who, they thought, would be awaiting them at the airport, as they had agreed.

Not knowing much about the city, the first thing they did was to hide the merchandise since it would have been risky to keep it in the hotel. They were not able to locate the other Brazilian--a businessman in Ipanema whose picture was taken by the GLOBO photographer with a telescopic lens--but they found out about Gina's apartment. Despite the fact that she is an addict, she refused to hide the drug, because she was under surveillance and was afraid of being caught red-handed. They then contacted another individual, who lives in Copacabana. However, his identity has not been determined as yet, because at the time, it was more important to follow up right away on the contacts I had arranged in the drug addiction treatment center.



The Bolivians Jean Paul and Gaston Andres, and GLOBO reporter Victor Combothanassis were arrested right on Avenida Atlantica in the evening when they were trying to negotiate 500 grs of cocaine which the pair had brought from their country for resale in Rio. The reporter's arrest, actually, was only simulated, because he had advised the police about the affair beforehand, an action that led to the arrest of still another gang of traffickers.

[6 Jun 77, p 11]

[Text] Papers of cocaine can be bought during the day at any bookmaking spot in Rio de Janeiro at prices ranging from CR\$100 to CR\$500, depending on the quality and quantity (a maximum of 1 gram). At nightfall, and until dawn, the pencil-sharpeners of the lawbreakers are replaced by prostitutes who walk the streets of the city at night or take care of interested customers in the main brothels of the southern district. Even children who sell roast peanuts are used in the distribution of marihuana.

This was discovered by the GLOBO reporter and detective Jamil Warwar when they spent 2 weeks in the narcotics marketplace of Rio, sometimes pretending to be addicts, sometimes traffickers, and sometimes smugglers interested in getting into the drug business. They also saw police officers receive bribes, made contacts with dozens of middlemen, and finally succeeded in penetrating one of the "organizations."

Here is the third installment (in a series of four) of the reporter's story:

In the business world, a monopoly, at least in Rio de Janeiro, is being undermined at a rate that is now beginning to worry the groups which have maintained control of the narcotics traffic for a long time. This fact has a simple explanation--since it is so easy to get, addicts from the so-called upper middle class buy cocaine directly in Bolivia, keep a part of it for their own use, and sell the rest in the circles in which they move.

This was clear during the almost 2 weeks that I spent, with detective Jamil Warwar, infiltrating the narcotics market, particularly in the southern district. But at the same time it was also clear that the organized traffickers have their own system of defending their business: they supply information to known groups of "parasites," who blackmail addicts dealing in cocaine or cause that information to reach the police themselves (and sometimes through direct channels).

And that was the greatest fear of an addict to whom I shall refer here as Pepe (in order not to endanger his life) whom I carried on the seat of my motorcycle for 2 days. He imagined me to be an addict from Sao Paulo, with much money and many problems getting the drug in the capital of the state of Sao Paulo at that time, and he took me to various points in the southern district. Information obtained in the narcotics rehabilitation clinic, where I took a 10-day "treatment," made me familiar with names and places, and that is how I overcame Pepe's initial suspicion when I sought him out for the first time. But he was concerned about something else--he was afraid we would be discovered by a lookout of the traffickers, since we were going to "buy the drug" with addicts who resold part of the cocaine brought from Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

In a private car with Sao Paulo license plate, Jamil Warwar, his companions Jamile Mamede, Homero Fleming, and Dilson Constantino, in addition to the GLOBO photographer, followed us at a sufficient distance not to arouse suspicion.

The Transactions

Papillotes of cocaine can be purchased at any time at certain spots from Leme to Leblon. Inside each papillote there is a small white thread of the drug weighing less than 1 gram and generally mixed with additives (bicarbonate or fruit salt--salde frota). According to my eventual partner, using such a mixture it would be necessary to sniff at least five to turn on.

But I explained to Pepe that I wanted good merchandise in larger quantity. So we went to the corner of Visconde de Piraja and Henrique Dumont Streets looking for Pachado, a numbers game bookie who works for the bookmaker China (from Copacabana) and is under the control of the latter's manager, Jorge Bodanha.

The place was very busy and for that reason caution had to be dispensed with somewhat, for there were many lookouts. The car driven by Jamil stopped slightly more than 100 meters away, and my movements were observed at that distance through the telephoto lenses of the photographer.

Machado was not there at the moment, but upon learning what was involved, Jaime, his partner, went to get him. In the meantime, Pepe and I were talking with a group of lawbreakers and addicts, all willing to deal with us for their papillotes.

The Police

A businessman from Ipanema who was in Santa Cruz de la Sierra with another Brazilian, made contact with the Frenchman Jean Paul Reymond and the Chilean Gaston Andres Urrutia (at that time [line(s) missing?] prisoners in Rio), gave the alarm, indicating that three police officers in a private car were a little less than 15 meters from our group.

I had my back turned, and for a few moments I imagined that Jamil was rushing things and was approaching with his car before receiving my signal. This would have spoiled everything, for no important contact had been made.

I glanced discreetly and saw that the problem was worse than I had imagined --there were actually three policemen in the car, but unfamiliar ones. And Jamil's car was still in the same place, 100 meters away.

Pepe panicked and got on the seat of the motorcycle, trying to be discreet but decisive in a silent call for us to leave. Two policemen got out of the car and walked toward our group; they stopped some 5 meters away and kept talking, while watching us.

In the event I was arrested with the group, I would have to explain my status as a newspaperman in a police headquarters, and all the work accomplished would come to naught. There would not be time to flee on the motorcycle, since the motor might not start immediately. And abandoning the recently purchased Honda never entered my mind. The only thing to do was to wait and see what happened.

Machado, who arrived in the company of Jaime, straightened out the whole thing when he saw what the situation was. Without a word he slipped a Cr\$100 bill to the policeman who was behind the wheel of the car, and with a toot on his horn the officer called his two companions. We then realized that their concern was not about us--they were out to get the so-called "toll."

Relieved, I asked Machado: since the policing of the streets was the responsibility of the Military Police, would they not then be exempt from the payment of that fee to civilian policemen? He replied hopelessly: "No, things are worse now."

Machado had no available merchandise, but he became enthusiastic when I offered Cr\$40,000 for 200 grams. He said he would talk with Jorge Bodanha and in 24 hours the delivery site could be agreed on. I said I would like to do business directly with Jorge, but Machado explained that Jorge was "taking care of a matter in the suburbs," but would return that night.

Having made that contact, I said that "in case I could not make the purchase by 3 p.m. (it was noon), I could do so on my return from Sao Paulo." And then it was agreed that upon my return I should look for him at the same place: "My daily work is right here, come rain or come shine."

Still with Pepe, who was expecting a commission in cocaine in the event I did some business through him, I made another contact, this time at the door of a bar in the vicinity of the corner of Farme de Amoedo and Barao da Torre Streets. I was with a blond boy some 25 years old, tall and slender, known as Mickey. He is an addict and one of the many middlemen who roam the route between Ipanema and Leblon daily in search of customers, who give him modest commissions paid in drugs.

When I spoke in terms of 150 grams of cocaine, he became frightened. He said he had some 20 papers and that in two hours he could get 50 more at most. It was Pepe, perhaps worried about losing his commission, who answered for me: "Stranger, don't you see that the man wants something big?"

Thinking that I was able to make a reasonable investment, Mickey became talkative. He said that he could arrange a meeting with "Dr. Fio," a bookmaker in Ipanema, and then he explained to me how Dr. Fio's people make deliveries.

"You be at the appointed place tonight, and a blue VW with Sao Paulo license plate is going to appear. After the deal is made, the merchandise is going to arrive in another car. They have scales in the car, and you weigh the stuff at that moment, in order to check."

I did not get to talk with "Dr. Fio": but one of his distributors arranged a meeting with me in the hall of Bar Vinte. We agreed on delivery at one of the corners of General Osorio Square at midnight, 2 days after the first meeting with Mickey.

Something must have gone wrong. Jamil had surrounded the whole area, and I kept waiting until 2 o'clock in the morning in my car with the right turn signal on, as agreed.

In the "Brothels"

Taking advantage of the rest of the early morning hours, Jamil dismissed the squad and we left together for a tour of the brothels of the southern district. Our purpose was to investigate how the narcotics traffic operates in the night life of Rio, at least in the domain of those who frequent that type of establishment.

Another discovery: the majority of the women who earn their livelihood walking the streets at night use drugs, and almost all of them are go-betweens for traffickers, distributors and customers. One of them, actually thinking that we were trying to buy a large quantity (20 grams) of pure cocaine, finally admitted being that type of intermediary able to obtain several milligrams of the drug for consumption.

Some 20 women with whom Jamil and I talked on that night and the following one at various establishments demonstrated that they were the lowest rung on the cocaine traffic ladder. Before beginning the "service," they receive from the hands of other addicts responsible for distribution the papillotes that will be sold to interested customers. Through them it would be very time-consuming work getting to the higher rungs on that ladder. And for this reason we decided to change strategy and try further contacts.

We already knew that at night the main papillotes distribution network functioned in the brothels and even on the sidewalk, and that during the day the papillotes could be purchased at most numbers game places in the city. And, even more important, that type of retail traffic flowed freely, without obstacles. In that investigative work we disregarded dozens of minor opportunities and did not concern ourselves with marihuana, which is sold by children who peddle roast peanuts on the streets, from Leme to Leblon.

Of the names mentioned in the clinic, one, which cannot yet be revealed, was heard quite frequently in our work on the drug market.

However, our approach could not be direct. Not out of fear for our safety, but because that person might be suspicious. The informant at the clinic alerted me to the fact that I should first seek out another addict, and he would take me to one of his helpers. And after testing me (I should buy at least 150 grams from him), he would take me to the person.

And it was then that the director of the Special Police Department, Waldemar Gomes de Castro, ordered the support of the police squad (called "tactical command") for special operations as a requirement for the approach and consequent arrest.

And this was to hold a surprise in store for us.

[7 Jun 77, p 13]

[Text] Detective Jamil Warwar and I, having joined the narcotics underworld, passing ourselves off as addicts and traffickers, had already completed the investigation of the information that I had obtained at the addict rehabilitation clinic, where I had spent 10 days undergoing "treatment."

The results seemed quite positive to us, for we had at least five good contacts in our quest to reach the heads of the organization. However, we knew that before any direct approach was possible we were going to be tested. Not that they distrusted us from the standpoint of safety, but they all wanted guarantees that we really had enough money for large transactions.

In order not to hurt feelings--the idea was not mine, obviously--it was agreed that our work would end at the moment a reasonable purchase of cocaine was made. The arrest would then be made, and subsequent arrests would provide the clues of the puzzle that would guide the special drug control branch of the police department. In short, after the arrest, the case would be in the hands of Drug Headquarters, which would be kept informed of everything.

We had to make a choice between various approach options. One of them would be at the Jacarepagua Leprosarium, where a sizable quantity of cocaine is distributed to middlemen of the northern district. Another one would be through the son (an addict and trafficker) of a nationality known Rio politician, in Cabo Frio. A third one would take us to "Dr. Fio," a numbers game bookmaker in Ipanema whom we had already attempted to approach, unsuccessfully the first time. The fourth one was the contact that I had left pending at "Bar Vinte" in Ipanema, with Machado, the numbers game bet-taker of bookmaker China (from Copacabana), who would put us in contact with the latter's manager, Jorge Bodanha.

But the fifth option, due to its importance, seemed the most suitable to us --penetrate the group through Valdemar Barbosa da Silva, or Bola. In addition to being an excellent contact, he was personally acquainted with the head of the organization. In addition, he was the private chauffeur of the deputy commissioner of Drug Headquarters in Rio de Janeiro, Nilton Costa, and he boasted of his friendship with Judge Alvaro Mayrink.

It was necessary to act quickly. Other persons had knowledge of our work, and as a result of any carelessness, the information could reach the gang. For that reason, with the exception of the director of the Special Police Department, Gomes de Castro, who knew about everything, every policeman who worked in the support group knew only the least information necessary for the role he was to play if called upon.

The Contact

It was through another addict, Nameless (in order to safeguard his life; he actually thought that Jamil and I were involved in smuggling and narcotics traffic), that we reached Bola. He lives in Niteroi, at a place called Caramujo, but hangs out at Bar Vinte in Ipanema, at the corner of Viscaonde de Piraja and Henrique Dumont Streets. This last detail caused part of the strategy to be changed: I was already known in the Bar Vinte area, and it would not be wise for me to be seen there again discussing another deal when I already had one pending with the bookie Machado. Therefore, the contact was made by Jamil, as my "representative."

Bola, who is also a cocaine addict and previously served a sentence for narcotics traffic, is a very suspicious man. But since he knew Nameless, he agreed to meet with Jamil. At the time of the first meeting in Bar Vinte, he told the policeman that he wanted to meet me, but the officer said that I was a "very busy businessman" and that he, Jamil, was authorized to make the first purchase, after checking the quality of the merchandise.

There were three days of talks and an initial meeting in front of number 88 General Severiano Street, in Botafogo, with a man who brought a sample of the merchandise. Jamil took the paper of cocaine to be "tested by the Gringo"--myself--with the price to be discussed afterward. Another meeting was arranged for the following day (Saturday, 28 May), at noon, in "Bar Vinte." Nameless was always close by (he also wanted a commission, to be paid in drug).

That day Bola said that the contact had already been made and that the purchase should be made immediately. Jamil, taken by surprise, explained that he was without money, since "the Gringo had no money on him," not imagining that the deal would be made immediately. Bola replied that "the men were waiting" and that "it was best to go there to offer an apology."

Not counting on this unexpected turn of events, since he had no way of communicating with me (I was accompanying him on a motorcycle from a distance), but also not to arouse suspicion, Jamil decided to take a chance. I was able to follow him only to the vicinity of the Canecao. But when the car reached Lauro Muller Street and entered a subdivision of houses occupied by I lost the trail. And following them there might arouse suspicion (there are many lookouts at the gasoline station opposite the Canecao, which I would have to pass), endangering Jamil's life.

The Sale

From then on, everything depended upon chance. Jamil parked the car in the subdivision, left Nameless inside (he did not want to expose him in case of a gunfight) and was taken by Bola to the last house on the right. He entered, two men signaled for him and Bola to go up to the upper floor, and locked the door, remaining below.

In the house, which was recently painted and with [?tiles] on the floor, had no furniture, indicating that no one was living in it. Upstairs there were five men (with the two downstairs, seven, in addition to Bola, and the Luger that Jamil carried camouflaged under his belt had only six bullets): one of them, tall and white, seemed to be the one in charge of the sale. Behind Jamil there was a mulatto leaning against the wall, with his right hand behind his waist (where he may have had a weapon).

Bola remained close to the white man and said dryly: "This is the man, the Gringo's representative."

The one who appeared to be the leader of the group then said that he had 150 grams of cocaine and he wanted Cr\$ 30,000. Jamil explained that under the circumstances, the purchase could not be made at that moment, since he had no money, and that he had come to that place only to offer an apology and to make an appointment for Monday.

The policeman sensed an air of distrust. With excellent self-control, however, he boldly stopped apoligizing and began to use insulting language while concocting a story.

He explained that the "Gringo" was a businessman, like himself and the others present, and that his business was not confined to narcotics, his main business being smuggling.

"And furthermore," said Jamil, "we would like to purchase a larger quantity; the quality of the sample is good, and if the price is right, we can make a deal. However, right now it cannot be. This morning the "Gringo" invested in another deal the money he was keeping for the weekend. The banks are closed, so it will be necessary to wait until Monday, unless you agree to a trade-- 150 grams of cocaine for Scotch whiskey and Seiko watches; we have a surplus of merchandise in Rio and we can make a hit now.

Fortunately, the group did not agree to the trade, and it was agreed that on Monday another contact would be made at Bar Vinte through Bola. The leader recommended, however, that he appear with the money and show it to Bola.

The meeting, which lasted close to a half hour, was over, and with his chatter Jamil had at least convinced Bola, to whom he gave a lift to his house in Niteroi, and once again he thanked him. Nameless went in search of Bola, in order that we might get an idea of the situation. Nameless returned a short time later and said that everything was "great" and that Bola had arranged the meeting in Bar Vinte for noon the following day--Monday, 30 May --and the place of the purchase would be at the same house in the subdivision at 1800 hours.

The preparations were carefully arranged by commissioner Gomes de Castro. A wireless microphone would be placed in Jamil's shirt, and it would be capable of receiving from a distance of up to 500 meters as long as there was no interference. The receiver would be with Dilson Constantino, a member of

Jamil's squad, who shortly before the operation was to begin would be flirting with a woman of the squad in the vicinity of the subdivision.

When Jamil was inside the house, his conversation would be picked up by Dilson, who would transmit it with his equipment to a Kombi with private license plate standing at a certain distance, to be retransmitted by the other members of the squad posted in the area and covering all the exits.

I would be a motorcycle delivery boy stopped at the entrance to Lauro Muller Street, "interested in some women's program."

The Signals

The operation, which was called "Alpha" by commissioner Valdemar, had started even before Jamil went to meet Bola in Ipanema. His first signals, however, would not be picked up until he reached the vicinity of the Canecao in a red VW with Sao Paulo license plate. That would be the alerting signal. The operation countdown would start precisely 2 minutes after Jamil said, "It's all set."

Two hours had passed, and there was still no signal from Jamil. It was imagined that he had passed the Canecao, and because of the activity in the area he had not been noticed. As for the microphone, perhaps it was not working. This was very hard to believe, but not impossible.

At 8:30 p.m., however, although we would not admit it, we all thought that Jamil had been discovered and killed. As if by telepathy, that thought went through the minds of the whole team, including the squad of the police force special tactical command.

I put aside the package of drugs for the prostitutes, placed the GLOBO photograph on the seat, and entered Lauro Muller slowly, looking all around, until emerging from that one-way street opposite the Rio de Janeiro Yacht Club. The subdivision alley was dark, and there was no signal from Jamil.

Shortly thereafter, he arrived all alone and explained what had happened: he had met Bola, who examined the money and left, asking him to wait. He returned at 1700 hours, accompanied by a mulatto, and took him to various places, always with an air of secrecy, until they stopped again in the vicinity of the repair shop on General Severiano Street. There the mulatto explained that the delivery site had been changed and that this time it would be at a house in Santo Cristo. Jamil explained that he would not go along with this, because this was not the arrangement that had been made. His feeling was that the group was planning to attack him.

"And I want you to know that if anything happens to me, the Gringo will take care of you and wipe out the whole deal. I consider all of this a real dirty trick--all this commotion over 150 grams of cocaine; and just to think the Gringo imagined we were going to do good business," Jamil had said in conclusion.

And so the transaction had to be postponed.

Explanations

The following day, Tuesday, the 31st of May, Jamil made another contact with Bola in Ipanema, where he did some threatening and asked for "explanations for the previous day's behavior."

Bola explained--and it was then that he gave the name of the leader of the group, who Drug Headquarters says should be under arrest today--that "that personage" was very suspicious, but that the initial deal would be carried out the following day, "without fail." Jamil played his role: he displayed reluctance, saying that he no longer trusted that group and that he was about to close a deal with other people, outside Rio.

Finally, Jamil "agreed [words missing] [saying that] when the merchandise was ready, Bola should contact Nameless, that he, Jamil, would decide "whether or not the Gringo would enter into the deal." In this way, the detective protected himself against possible changes in the plan, gaining time for any modifications that might be necessary.

On Wednesday, the first of this month, we contacted Nameless, who said that Jamil should pick up Bola at 2 p.m. in Ipanema, and that the sale would take place precisely at 4 p.m. in house number 31 Barbosa Silva Street, near the Rocha station in the northern district. Nameless also said that Bola had proposed the purchase of 1 kilo, but since at that time we had only Cr\$ 30,000 and there would not be time to provide more money, Jamil told him to say that the "Gringo" would first like to test the quality of the first 150 grams of cocaine.

Precisely on the hour the plan had to be carried out quickly. Jamil proceeded to the sector of the Security Secretariat, where the wireless microphone was installed, and from there, in the same red VW with Sao Paulo license plate, he continued on to meet Bola, in Ipanema. There, together with Nameless--who was interested in the cocaine commission and insisted on going along--Jamil proceeded to the Rocha station with Bola.

The House

Barbosa da Silva Street begins at an alley and ends at Ana Neri Street, and is a one-way street to there. There was hardly time to make the strategic investigation of the area. The police tactical command squad left first, to take up its position. Then Homero Fleming--a policeman belonging to Jamil's team--appeared, with a woman member of the team and a receiver. The couple remained behind the house, Jamil and Mamede, in another VW with "cold" (police) license plate, parked the vehicle behind two others, at a distance of about 80 meters, and remained reading a newspaper.

I, with a girl on the seat, stalled the motorcycle at a bakery near house number 31. First, passing Barbosa da Silva and seeing some boys repairing a jeep, I stalled the motorcycle and asked their help. They mentioned a repair shop several blocks from there. I asked to borrow some tools and began to repair the motorcycle. It was already 1610 hours, and I had not seen Jamil arrive. In order not to arouse suspicion, I started the motorcycle, after choking it quite a bit, and continued on with the choke out--which caused it to miss--as far as the bakery.

There, in order to gain time, I asked to use the telephone, while my companion drank a mineral water. I rang the GLOBO and explained to my surprised colleague on the other end of the line that my motorcycle had stalled and I wanted him to send the mechanic Marinho immediately to the address where I was. My colleague understood that I meant the photographer and that something important was about to happen. The operation had developed so quickly that there was no time to alert the photographer; the day before, we had set the meeting for 1330 hours at a certain place. When he arrived, we had already left.

I hung up the telephone, paid the bill, and my companion and I left muttering about the bad luck of having the motorcycle stalled.

It was at that moment that gunfire broke out, and it even startled me, for I imagined that the operation would be carried out without shots being fired. The motorcycle started at the first kick, and with the girl on the seat, I headed for the site. Before arriving, I remembered that my rider might be hit by a bullet, and I had her get off at a point where she was safe, and I proceeded to number 31.

The Prisoners

Actually, there was no way to know what was happening. People were running in all directions, shots being fired everywhere, some bouncing off the ground. Shortly, Jamil came out with Bola under arrest and Jamile with the other two traffickers, Mario Ferreira, 43 and Silvio de Oliveira, 44. Two women were also arrested: Maris Aparecida Caetano Barbosa, 32, and Maria Lina de Souza, 39. The latter was driving to Brasilia in a white car with license OZ-5183, in which the cocaine had arrived.

What happened is that Jamil entered with Bola, leaving Nameless in the car, but his microphone did not work. He made the purchase, delivered the money, and received the 150 grams of cocaine. He waited and none of his personal appeared (he did not know that the microphone was not working). He picked up the bag with the cocaine and said he was going to put it in his car and then return to give Bola a lift. He left, and gave the prearranged signal in case the microphone did not work. And since no one appeared, he went back and entered the house, Luger in hand, saying that they were all under arrest.

Mario, Silvio, and Bola, thinking that Jamil was a gangster trying to take both the cocaine and the money, reacted. That was when the gunfire broke out. At the first shots, Jamile entered on the scene, and then the two of them sized up the situation. When the tactical command personnel arrived, everything was already under control.

On the way to Drug Headquarters, where they would be booked, Mario said to Bola that the fault was his, and dryly recommended to him:

"In the police station tell them you are the guilty one, and don't give them any names."

Bola answered in the same tone:

"After 18 years in prison? I am going to turn everyone in.



From left to right: Silvio, Valdemar ("Bola") and Mario.

Maria Lina drove
the car carrying
the cocaine.

BRAZIL

GENERAL SAYS COMMUNISTS ARE BEHIND DRUG TRAFFIC

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Jun 77 p 17

[Text] Porto Alegre--Gen Fernando Belfort Bethlem, commanding officer of the 3rd Army, said yesterday that there is an ideological backdrop "to the drug traffic in this country, in that the communists are interested in corrupting young minds in order to destroy them and our Christian, democratic, and freedom-loving society."

General Bethlem, who spoke following a talk on drugs that was delivered to officers of the 3rd Army by Jose Antonio Hahn, coordinator of the Federal Police Regional Superintendency, added, "Today we are living in an independent country, and we have the moral obligation to keep it that way and to bequeath it as such to our young people, who are our hope, so that they will have a country which is our pride and which will be their pride."

Importance of Father

The commanding officer of the 3rd Army said that "the problem of cocaine existed when I was a student in Rio de Janeiro, but it was not as widespread as it is today. Cocaine used to be restricted to artists and soccer players, but today it is found in innumerable sectors. The problem is now part of the communist strategy for attacking our young people. Because of that, I stress the importance of fathers in the relationship with their sons. Today the father must be his son's best friend, so that when the son has a problem of some kind, he will go to his father first."

The commanding officer of the 3rd Army emphasized, "In a wholesome and peaceful family atmosphere, the son will experience a tranquillity which, while it may not be the solution to the attacks from this advance by drugs, is certainly the principal means of diminishing the gravity of the problem."

Jose Hahn is regarded as one of the foremost drug experts in the Federal Police. He pointed out that "the occurrence of drug addiction injures the moral and physical integrity of Brazilian young people." During his talk, which was delivered as part of the training course for officers of the

2d [as published] Army Command, Jose Hahn said that action to combat drugs "is not an isolated task; it belongs to the greater security community and is a part of national security in the attempt to bring tranquillity and peace to the country."

Jose Hahn said that along with specialized courses abroad and participation by Brazilian delegations in Latin American agreements for combating drugs, preventive and repressive action is also necessary. But he condemned erroneous strategies: it would be ridiculous to combat the drug traffic and the traffickers by simply setting up educational programs, just as it is also ridiculous to repress maladjusted individuals, who are the ones most prone to drug addiction.

The police coordinator for Federal Police in Rio Grande do Sul said that "many people deceive themselves by believing that there is no organized crime in Brazil. It does exist in the area of drug trafficking, and it has an organization that includes everything from plantations, transportation, storage sites (caches), and tycoons to the so-called passers who sell the drug to addicts. Against such organizations, Brazil commits a serious error by arresting only the passer and treating the case as an individual crime. It is necessary to go after the organizations in several sectors and to locate the plantations."

He recalled that the most widely used drugs are marihuana and the synthetic products (amphetamines, pervintin-based products) and that Brazil "has begun to enter the era of cocaine, which is used chiefly by young people in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo." He added that "as the economy continues to grow, vices become more sophisticated, and the day will come when the heroin traffickers will try to conquer the Brazilian market." He concluded by saying that drug addiction is an urban phenomenon and is concentrated in the 19-23 age group (60 percent of the cases).

Besides the commanding officer of the 3rd Army, the following also attended the lecture: Gen Antonio Carlos de Andrada Serpa, commanding officer of the 3rd Military Region; Gen Luiz Gonzaga Pereira da Cunha, commanding officer of the 6th Army Division; Gen Mario Ramos de Alencar, chief of staff of the 3rd Army; Col Luis Macksen de Castro Rodrigues, Federal Police superintendent; and officers from the 3rd Army Headquarters and other units in the area.

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BRAZIL

DRUG TRAFFICKING IN MATO GROSSO DISCUSSED

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Jun 77 p 14

[Text] Campo Grande, Coxim, Dourados and Ponta Pora, Mato Grosso. At an early morning hour, the 10,000 inhabitants of Coxim were sleeping when a brown camper truck headed toward the city public jail, carrying within it eight grim men. The silence was broken: first, by a loud discussion, and then by a revolver and machinegun fire, followed by screams, appeals for help, great confusion and the noise of a vehicle taking off at high speed, its headlights piercing the darkness of the night.

Minutes later, when the first witnesses arrived, jailkeeper Frederico Fernandes de Almeida, 66, was stammering his last words and pointing a tremulous finger toward the open door of the jail. Benedito Aparecido de Andrade, a drug trafficker who was caught redhanded a few hours earlier with two kilograms of marihuana and taken to the Coxim jail had escaped, carried off by seven of his brothers, four of them soldiers in the Mato Grosso military police, and another a deputy from Rio Brilhante.

But why such violence to free an individual who would be sentenced 6 months at the most? The answer came with the investigations made in Coxim and Campo Grande by federal police agents. In a house on 15 November Street in Campo Grande, 106 packets of pressed marihuana, ready for packaging, were found, totaling 778 kilos in weight, the largest quantity ever seized in a single lot in the whole of Brazilian police history. Some days later, Jonas Sebastiao de Oliveira, Joao Vicente de Andrade, and Antonio Vicente de Padua, following some resistance, were arrested in Rio Brilhante, and they admitted to possession of the drug and the attack on the jail.

Events such as this, according to the agents at the Federal Police Superintendency in Campo Grande, cannot be regarded as rare in the city or the municipalities on the Paraguayan or Bolivia borders. In 1975, with only four agents assigned to the drug squad, 858 kilograms of marihuana and 5,574 ampules of drugs of various types were seized. This is a quantity sufficient to keep a third of the population of Rio de Janeiro in a drugged state for 4 consecutive days.

Arrests Increase

The volume of drug arrests, mainly for marihuana and cocaine, has increased with every passing year in Mato Grosso, according to the Federal Police statistics, which show seizures of 1,443 kilograms of marihuana, 1,795 ampules and 1,276 pills in 1976, involving 254 drug traffickers and addicts who were arrested and are facing trial. Of these, at least 40 percent are repeaters and, in the opinion of Dr Oscar Akinawa of the Our Lady of Fatima Clinic, there is very little likelihood of their rehabilitation, because they have reached the stage of full addiction.

"Statistics is what you are certain of. What is happening you do not know," the general coordinator of the Federal Police Superintendency in Campo Grande, Wandir Leite da Silva, says. He has been in the area for 7 years and is one of the leading experts on the drug problem in the state.

From January to May of this year the Federal Police, using a larger force -- 14 agents assigned exclusively to drug sector, and as many others as were needed in "peak" periods -- increased the volume of arrests yet again, seizing half a ton of marihuana, 11 kilograms of cocaine, and 572 pills, demonstrating the thesis that the number of police agents active in the sector is proportional to the quantity of drugs found every year. Thus the coordinating office is hoping to achieve even better results in the coming months, since in addition to more people working the new shifts, with selection on the basis of public national competition, they have the incentive of higher salaries.

The sources of drug supply have been fully clarified by the police. The cocaine comes from Bolivia, generally the Department of Santa Cruz, from the mountains, from the provinces of Puerto Suarez and Quijarro, frontier areas which maintain various laboratories with modern technology for the processing of the coca leaf, which is sold freely in the neighboring country, into a fine white powder, resembling bicarbonate. This is cocaine, one of the most deadly drugs in the world.

The marihuana comes from Paraguay, from plantations located in Pedro Juan Caballero and Capitao Bago, also frontier areas, beyond the reach of the Brazilian police. The drug ampules and pills, the majority of them are Pervitin brand, previously came from Argentina, but as of the beginning of this year that country prohibited their manufacture.

Trade Running to Millions

In Pedro Juan Caballero, a kilogram of pressed marihuana, carefully packaged in cellophane, can be purchased without great difficulty for 200 cruzeiros, or 14 guaranies. If an individual so desires he can arrange to receive his order in Ponta Pora or even in Dourados, undertaking in these cases to meet the eventual travel expenses and "transporter's" risk. In Campo Grande, the same kilogram of marihuana is much more valuable and can cost between

2,000 and 3,000 cruzeiros, paid in cash, because there is no credit or trust between traffickers.

"When the marihuana reaches the larger cities such as Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Brasilia or Belo Horizonte, its price is very high, varying depending on the market. A kilogram will cost between 5,000 and 6,000 cruzeiros, but the sellers always prefer to sell the readymade cigarette, with a much greater profit. And it is here that they make a fortune," states a Federal Police agent in Ponta Pora.

Much stronger, and capable of destroying every internal part of the nose in 2 years of continuous addiction, cocaine brings fantastic prices in major centers, being sold by the gram. Wandir Leite da Silva says that the prices vary according to supply and demand, but in Bolivia a kilogram of cocaine is usually bought for 50,000 cruzeiros and then sold in Rio or Sao Paulo at a minimum 300 cruzeiros per gram, making 300,000 per kilogram.

"The drug is murderous not only through addiction, but in terms of money as well. The addict will fight to get it and to get the money for it, as it is the essential element for filling his needs," says Carlos Bresser, a former police commissioner in Dourados, currently a rancher.

Acts of violence occur almost daily, sometimes witnessed by hundreds of persons. If the attack on the Coxim jail, with the resulting murder of the jailer, was impressive in its violence, the inclinations of Jose Gouveia da Silva, 30 years of age, are noteworthy for their boldness: in the past 2 years he has been arrested and sentenced to prison three times -- twice in Brazil and once in Paraguay -- but even so he arranged to take 66 kilograms of marihuana from Ponta Pora to Sao Paulo, in exchange for 6,000 cruzeiros to be paid by a so-called friend, Alli Amad Nasser, who is serving a 10-year prison sentence in Sao Paulo.

When approached by Federal Police agents in a vacant lot in the environs of the Campo Grande mental hospital, where they were transferring the drug into two trunks, they attempted to flee. Alli Amad Nasser succeeded in getting away, leaving behind belongings and documents, but Jose Gouveia da Silva, a native of Capela, in the state of Alagoas, was not equally lucky. On being taken to the jail he complained of the change in Brazilian penal legislation, which previously provided for 1 to 6 years imprisonment for drug traffickers, which has now been extended to 3 to 15 years, and 6 months to 2 years for addicts.

Danger All Around

In the period between the 8th and the 13th of last May, the Federal Police seized 106 kilograms of marihuana, searching buses traveling from Dourados to Campo Grande and automobiles, many of them seemingly most respectable, such as, for example, a camper with Sao Paulo plates -- it contained 18 kilograms and 550 grams, and a Volkswagen sedan, also from Sao Paulo, carrying 17 kilograms and 100 grams. On these occasions the agents had all kinds

of information. The most productive came from individuals who had infiltrated circles of addicts accustomed to associating with both purchasers and sellers.

"They use their heads and are well organized, because this is an intensive battle," comments an army officer in Ponta Pora, "and they make our people work hard. If we had more people concerned with this, obviously we would apprehend more addicts and seize more smuggled goods. The artifices they used to deceive the people, often spending real fortunes, are impressive."

One of these "artifices" is to have a false bottom put in a vehicle, usually one of the largest type -- camper, rural vehicle or light truck. These can be installed in such a way beneath the vehicles that they cannot be detected from outside. Double sides are also built, by removing the material between the metal panels. Another way of concealing large quantities of marihuana is to take the foam padding out of the automobile seat, placing the weed inside and filling it up again as it originally was. All of these maneuvers, however, are now known to the Federal Police agents and it is not likely that a suspected vehicle can successfully deceive the inspectors.

When a drug trafficker realizes he has been discovered and that there is no escape, dangers surround anyone nearby. On one such occasion Bras Vicente de Padua, 21 years of age, charged with the murder of eight persons for money, fired four revolver shots and killed one policeman in Ponta Pora, wounding another in the neck. On a similar occasion, Sergio Moreno, another previously convicted criminal, tried to use his Taurus 32 caliber revolver against two policeagents.

"In the battle against drugs the greatest care is too little. These are not common bandits, such as we find elsewhere. On seeing that all is lost, they attack to kill and those who value their lives should take care," says an agent in Coxim, still remembering the attack on the local jail and the death of the jailer, the father of six.

In 1977, agents of the Federal Police Superintendency in Campo Grande succeeded in arresting 130 drug traffickers, half of them regarded as dangerous, having served other terms in Brazilian prisons and jails. They have only one concern -- that some of them, on being freed again in 2, 3 or 4 years, will decide to take vengeance on some police agent or his relative.

"When people choose this profession they know that they will run risks, but I do not even like to think about this possibility. I have already seen many good policemen ruined entirely just from imagining themselves victims of these near madmen," says Bartolomeu dos Santos, a police "collaborator" in Ponta Pora.

On 17 May last, the chief inspector of the Mato Grosso health foundation, Nicola Miguel Kalix, burned 329 kilograms of marihuana, 28 kilograms of cocaine, a kilo and a half of coca leaf, 488 Estenamine pills and 400

Debutal pills, valued at an estimated 10 million cruzeiros. The Federal Police seizures of these drugs led to 37 investigations and the arrest of 61 persons.

"It is a pity that the majority of those arrested are young people," says Wandir Leite.

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BRAZIL

SIX MEMBERS OF COCAINE RING ARRESTED IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Jun 77 p 17

[Text] A gang responsible for the distribution of cocaine in Rio de Janeiro has been broken up by agents from the Narcotics Division. Confiscated were 2 kilograms of the drug, two precision scales, and rolls of special paper used in making up the bags. The cocaine had come from Campo Grande in Mato Grosso and had been sent by Pedro Rodrigues ("Pedro Veio"), who controls distribution of the drug in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and other large cities in the country. He is now a fugitive. The gang has ties with the traffickers whose names were revealed in a recent report by O GLOBO on the cocaine traffic in Rio de Janeiro.

Being held at the Narcotics Division in Alto da Boa Vista are 51-year-old Randolfo Ferreira Neto, leader of the gang that was operating in Rio de Janeiro; his wife Maria da Conceicao Ferreira, 42; distributors Valterio Ferreira da Silva, 43, and Remilton de Castro, 37; and the "pickup men" (men hired to bring the drug from Mato Grosso to Rio de Janeiro) Sebastiao de Vasconcelos, 29, and Epaminondas Araujo Filho, 31. Other members of the gang (Mauricio do Valle, Valdir Ribeiro do Rosario ("Valdir Charuto"), and the latter's wife, Sandra da Conceicao Marques) are fugitives.

Three Months

The investigation leading to discovery of the gang's leaders had been underway for 3 months by Police Chief Valterson Botelho, head of the Department of Narcotics Repression. The police officer infiltrated the narcotics underworld and succeeded in reaching Valterio, a retired federal employee who had a taxi which he used to distribute the drug in Catete, Flamengo, and part of the Southern Zone. Next, acting on information obtained from women involved in prostitution, the police chief discovered that Remilton de Castro, a resident of Cidade Alta de Cordovil, was the man selling bags of cocaine for 150 cruzeiros throughout the Mangue area and in Cordovil. The two men were arrested, and they pointed to Randolfo Ferreira Neto, who lives in Vila Isabel, as the main supplier of cocaine in Rio de Janeiro.

In Randolfo's house at 147 Jorge Rudge Street, police found nothing, but they arrested him and his wife, Maria da Conceicao. On being interrogated, Randolfo said his wife was innocent and revealed the address used by the gang as a storage place: 196 Dr Nicanor Street, Apartment 104, in Inhauma. There police seized 1 kilogram of cocaine, scales, and rolls of English translucent tracing paper suitable for making up the bags.

Flight

When Police Chief Valterson Botelho arrived at the apartment in question with a few police officers, Valdir Ribeiro and his wife, Sandra da Conceicao, were able to escape.

The information provided by Randolfo, who is already being investigated for trafficking in cocaine, enabled police to seize 1 kilogram of cocaine at the downtown Paulistano Hotel on Visconde do Rio Branco Street, where they also arrested Sebastiao de Vasconcelos and Epaminondas Araujo Filho, who were bringing the drug here to be sold. Both men had arrived from Campo Grande in Mato Grosso moments before the arrest, and the package containing the drug was hidden under the mattress in the room they were occupying.

"Big Deal"

In the course of their investigation, police from the Narcotics Division discovered that "Pedro Veio," who owns several business establishments in Campo Grande, was responsible for the cocaine traffic practically throughout the country. He obtained the drug in Santa Cruz de la Sierra in Paraguay and then shipped it (at 90,000 cruzeiros per kilogram) to large cities in Brazil.

Police Chief Valterson Botelho has sent messages to the Federal Police requesting that they apprehend Pedro, who reportedly is a man of great property and influence in Campo Grande.

Randolfo said that early in 1973 he began selling cocaine to big distributors in Rio de Janeiro, such as the traffickers on Providencia, Mangueira, and Faz-Quem-Quer hills, located respectively behind the Central of Brazil, Sao Cristovao, and Madureira stations.

"For me it was a big deal. I have been working for a construction firm as an accounting expert for 15 years, and I earn a ludicrous salary. Drugs are a business like any other; the difference is that they are illegal."

Randolfo, who says his wife knew nothing about his activities, has 500,000 cruzeiros deposited in a bank branch in Vila Isabel.

"She is a saint, and we have two children who do not even smoke. I am not an addict and have never sniffed 'powder' (cocaine). I think it is the height of stupidity. Those kids are killing themselves with drugs."



Acima, a partir
da esquerda:
Sebastião,
Valterio,
Maria da
Conceição,
Randolfo e
Nilton. Ao lado
os foragidos:
Sandra
(à esquerda) e
Valdir "Charuto".



Top photo, from the left: Sebastiao, Valterio, Maria da Conceicao, Randolfo, and Nilton. Below, the fugitives: Sandra (left) and Valdir "Charuto" (right).

Trafficker's Accounts

Before organizing his gang to distribute cocaine in Rio de Janeiro, Randolfo Neto worked as an accountant for trafficker Paulinho da Lacraia, owner of the cocaine distribution points in Caju and Maua Square.

"He was paying me 6,000 cruzeiros just to do the accounting for his 'business.' At that time he was the partner of Valdir 'Charuto.' They had a falling out, and Valdir left the partnership."

With the departure of Valdir "Charuto," who knew "Pedro Veio," the supplier in Mato Grosso, Randolfo saw a chance to set up his own business in partnership with Valdir.

"We bought 1 kilogram and sold it quickly. We earned 60,000 cruzeiros from that transaction. After that I couldn't stop."

Last 17 May, Randolfo and Valdir "Charuto" ordered 10 kilograms of cocaine. During the trip, one of the pickup men (Amaro Lino da Cruz ("Naval"), who lives in Santos in Sao Paulo State) was arrested. The other man managed to get to Rio de Janeiro and delivered 5 kilograms of the drug to Randolfo, who paid 450,000 cruzeiros for it.

The trafficker said, "I got into that deal because I needed the money. After you begin earning easy money, it's almost impossible to stop."

Pickup Men

Sebastiao de Vasconcelos and Epaminondas Araujo Filho were working at a bakery in Campo Grande.

"One day we met 'Pedro Veio,' who said he was a peddler dealing in cloth. He offered each of us 1,500 cruzeiros to make the trip to Rio de Janeiro."

In addition to the 1,500 cruzeiros, "Pedro Veio" also provided 200 cruzeiros to pay for meals and told the pickup men to stay at the Paulistano Hotel in downtown Rio de Janeiro.

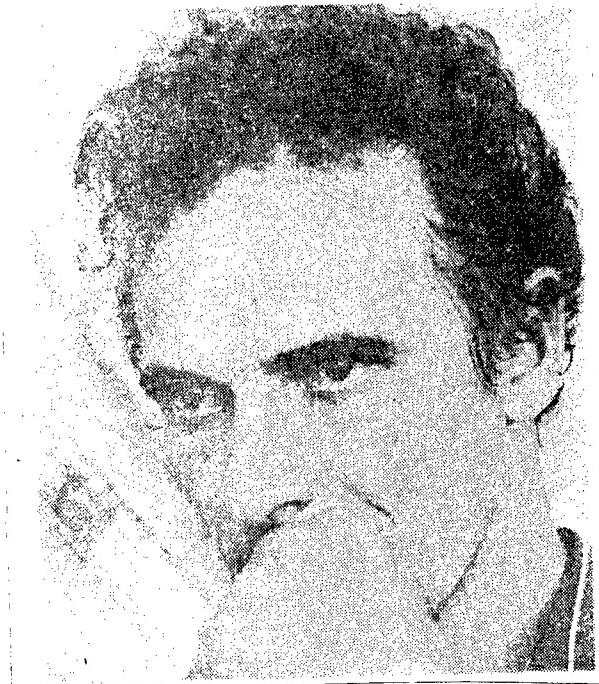
"He would buy the tickets and give them to us, telling us to get off at the Novo Rio Highway, go straight to the hotel, and hide the goods under the mattress."

The big boss in the drug trade would come to Rio de Janeiro by plane and meet the pickup men at the hotel. There he would pick up the cocaine, which came in wax-sealed packages, and take it to Randolfo's house. He would then collect his 90,000 cruzeiros per kilogram, pay the hotel bill, pay the 1,500 cruzeiros for the pickup men, and return by plane, while they traveled by bus. In that way he was never caught with the drug, making it difficult to catch him redhanded.

"Pedro Veio" was supposed to have arrived in Rio de Janeiro at 1500 hours the day before yesterday in order to deliver to Randolfo the cocaine seized at the Paulistano Hotel and collect his money, but all indications are that he was warned--no one knows how--and managed to escape.

The two pickup men would come to Rio de Janeiro once a week, carrying from 1 to 10 kilograms of cocaine for the gang.

Agents from the Narcotics Division seized two cars--one a Brasilia and the other a Volkswagen--that were being used to distribute the drug.



Epaminondas brought the cocaine from Mato Grosso.

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BRAZIL

LARGE LOT OF MARIHUANA SEIZED IN CHALE

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Jun 77 p 12

[Text] In a wooden hut in the locality of Chale, Mangueira Hill, police yesterday found 100 kilograms of marihuana pressed with honey, 100 papers of cocaine, 3 precision scales, a container for transporting the papers and 60 .45 caliber bullets, ten of which were the type used in machineguns.

The drugs belonged to the gang headed by Walter Tora, alias Dart, who was arrested some weeks ago in Nilopolis, and whose accomplices engage in drug traffic in that hill area, constantly changing headquarters, thus making police action difficult. Two weeks ago, soldiers from the 4th Military Police Battalion seized 75 kilograms of marihuana belonging to the same drug trafficker. His accomplices and his brother in law, identified only as Jorge, and Pola, succeeded in escaping.

On his arrest in Nilopolis, where he owns a shop, Dart was taken to the 17th Police Precinct (Sao Cristovao) where he told police the names of his two main accomplices, stating that a large quantity of drugs was in their possession. Some days later the military police located one of the huts used as a "warehouse," and seized the 75 kilograms of pressed marihuana.

The police are continuing their investigation and in the past few days they obtained information about a suspect hut at the locality known as Chale. When the detectives arrived there was an exchange of fire, but Jorge and Pola succeeded in getting away, leaving behind the drugs and ammunition.

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BRAZIL

FILM ACTOR CHARGED WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jun 77 p 22

[Text] Mauricio do Vale, a film actor who has disappeared, is one of the members of the largest cocaine trafficking gang in Rio de Janeiro, according to the police drug squad. Six of the eight members of the gang, one of whom is an employee of the Neves Police Station in Niteroi, were arrested Thursday.

The police have been receiving reports about this gang for more than a month. Now, with the arrest of those involved and the seizure of 2 kilograms of the drug in an apartment in Inhauma, it has become clear that the drug was sent from Mato Grosso by Pedro Velho, regarded as one of the heaviest traffickers in the state.

Imprisonment

The head of the gang, Randolfo Ferreira Neto, was arrested in unit No 7 at 147 Jorge Rudge Street in Vila Isabel. He led the police to where the drug was stored, in apartment 104, 196 Dr Nicanor Street, in Inhauma, where 2 kilograms of cocaine were seized and his wife, Maria da Conceicao Ferreira, was arrested.

Four other members of the gang were arrested that same day: Valterio Ferreira da Silva was in charge of distribution in Flamengo; Reinaldo de Castro, an employee of the Neves police station, also engaged in distribution; Sebastiao de Vasconcelos and Epaminondas Araujo Pinto were the two "matutos," i.e., they transported the cocaine from Campo Grande, in Mato Grosso, to Rio de Janeiro.

Actor Mauricio do Vale, who escaped, was in charge of distribution in Grajau and in film and television actors' circles, according to the police, and the cocaine was supplied by Pedro Velho, one of the largest Mato Grosso drug traffickers, sought by the police for some time. He only came to Rio de Janeiro to obtain money from Randolfo.

Bribery

The police said that the scheme provided the gang with an excellent financial situation, since Randolfo went so far as to try to bribe the police, offering 520,000 cruzeiros in exchange for mitigating the charge. The money was deposited in his name in the branches of the Federal Economic Fund and the Boavista Bank in Vila Isabel. The gang also has two Volkswagens and a Brasilia, apart from 600 cruzeiros worth of English paper, used in packaging the drug.

Randolfo admitted distributing cocaine, but denied that he had any of the drug in his home when he was arrested. He also said that his wife was not a member of the gang. She admitted knowledge of her husband's involvement, but said she did not participate in the distribution. She asked to be seen by a doctor since she suffers from high blood pressure.

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BRAZIL

BRIEFS

THREE MURDERED--Bus driver Arilton da Silva, 30 years of age, was found dead yesterday morning along with two unidentified persons, in the backyard of his home at No 14 Neocino Jose de Aquino Street in Nilopolis. The three were riddled with bullets and the police found 44 grams of cocaine, 105 marihuana cigarettes and a case containing 5 kilograms of the weed near the bodies. The residents of the area told police that Arilton had dealt in drugs at his home during the hours he was not working as a driver for the Evanil enterprise for a long time. He could be seen in his backyard daily, with various other individuals, selling marihuana and cocaine. The police had no doubt that Arilton and the two unidentified persons were killed in a gun fight resulting from rivalries in the drug trade. No weapon was found near the bodies. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Jun 77 p 21] 5157

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

SCANDAL IN THE 'HK-1291' CASE

Judge Releases Colombian Aircrew

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jun 77 pp 1-A, 9-A

[Article by Jose Cervantes]

[Text] The crew members of the marihuana airplane who turned up recently in La Guajira were released yesterday by Judge Edilberto Altamar de la Cruz, "for lack of evidence."

In the meantime, the Regional Bureau of the Office of the Attorney General received important documents from the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) which, according to authorized sources, could give the lie to the stories told by the crew members.

Capt Roberto Lopez, Copilot Rafael Visbal, Jr. and Flight Engineer Walter Olarte were released from the City Jail on the orders of the judge who had jurisdiction in the case.

The documents which were turned over to Colombian investigators are said to contradict the versions submitted by the crew of the DC-6.

Sources associated with the investigation which had these documents in their possession reported that they had checked the route which the alleged kidnap victims said they had taken between Barranquilla, El Banco and La Guajira.

According to reports, the alleged route was followed in a similar airplane belonging to AEROSUCRE [Sucre Airline Company] and it was established that such a flight could not have been made, as the time taken in the flight exceeded considerably the time actually taken in the flight between Barranquilla and the site in the United States where the airliner went down. That is to say, the flight of the marihuana airplane had to have been completed directly between Barranquilla and the site of the accident in Kansas, on the basis of time.

This would indicate that the alleged kidnap victims of the DC-6 were taken to upper La Guajira and that, obviously, the aircraft took off from Barranquilla for the United States, not only with them, but also carrying the marihuana shipment from there and with auxiliary gas tanks which permitted them to complete the flight without refueling stops.

Last week, Judge Altamar heard the preliminary statements of the AEROSUCRE HK-1291 crew in an unspecified location in La Guajira.

The men who "turned up" stated that they had been the victims of a dramatic kidnapping which began at 1400 hours on 10 April on the runways of the Ernesto Cortissoz international airport. Judge Altamar believed their story and this afternoon released them on bail, as requested by the pilots' attorney, Roberto Chavarro Castro.

All Released

The unusual aspect of this case is that all of those who were members of the crew and those who directly or indirectly had something to do with the departure of the airliner to the United States are free.

Jose Gonzalez Bett, the alleged buyer of the AEROSUCRE HK-1291 has been missing since 10 April, minutes after he said goodbye to the crewmen at the Ernesto Cortissoz international airport.

Lopez Visbal, Jr. and Olarte, the flight engineer, were released today after Judge Altamar ruled that "there is no evidence which merits their detention."

The fourth crew member, Fernando Gutierrez, alias "El Flace" [Skinny], has disappeared and the authorities fear for his life. There was one story that he had been seen in the town of Sitionuevo, department of Magdalena; however, the police were unable to find him.

Juan Manuel Retat Diaz Granados, the Colombian seized in Jetmore, Kansas, along with the marihuana-laden airplane, is free on bail in the United States.

Retat Diaz Granados, who is in Kansas, without proper documents and penniless, was nonetheless represented by an attorney who paid the sum of \$125,000 (4.5 million pesos) as bail and an additional \$25,000 fine for lack of documents.

Gringos Edward Beeford, Robert Franklin Simonds and George William Kresting, who were seized along with Retat Diaz Granados and the airplane, are free on bail in the U.S.

The only one still in jail is Jaime Batle Gomez who had received a commission of 50,000 pesos to "find a buyer for the airplane" and 20,000 additional pesos to pay off the AEROCIVIL [Civil Aeronautics Agency] personnel in

El Banco who reported the arrival of the airplane in that city, although this never happened.

F-2 quarters were surprised and disappointed by the judge's decision, inasmuch as there are still many missing pieces in this case, according to the investigators; and it has not been fully proved that the AEROSUCRE HK-1291 was really hijacked.

Crew Disappears; Judge Sharply Criticized

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Jun 77 pp 1-A, 5-A

[Article by Hernan Unas]

[Excerpts] The attorney general of the nation, Jaime Serrano Rueda, and the minister of justice Cesar Gomez Estrada, talked for an hour yesterday on the subject of the release of the crew of the AEROSUCRE HK-1291 airplane by a Barranquilla judge. The two officials analysed the present situation on the Atlantic Coast due to the unrelenting action of the mafias, with special emphasis on all of the details surrounding the strange story which was told by the crew members of the aircraft that was seized in the United States with 40 tons of marihuana aboard.

Those who were released at the orders of the second criminal circuit judge, Dr Edilberto Altamar de la Cruz, were the pilot, Roberto Lopez; the copilot [sic], Walter Olarte Yances; and the flight engineer [sic], Rafael Visbal.

Shortly after Dr Gomez Estrada left the top prosecutor's office, there was a slight incident with some of the newsmen who were waiting for a report, something the officials were unwilling to provide.

Attorney General Serrano Rueda, in the face of the stubborn insistence of the reporters, said: "You want to force me to talk."

Minutes later, however, the high official stated that one of the causes for the proliferation of the drug traffic is the lack of means to fight the shadowy organizations which are engaged in this activity.

Serrano Rueda was emphatic when he said that "it is not correct to say that the government is doing nothing, for in this case which is occupying our attention, official action is evident."

The Attorney General said that the state lacks the means needed to launch a frontal and decisive attack on the drug traffickers; in any event, however, everything possible is being done to put a brake on the situation, particularly on the Atlantic coast.

When he was asked his opinion about the release of the crew of the HK-1291 ordered by the Second Criminal Circuit Judge of Barranquilla, the high official replied:

"That decision cannot be described as lightly taken, without knowing beforehand the reasons for such a determination."

"We Must Be Calm"

For his part, Minister Gomez Estrada said that in cases such as this "we must stay calm and not get hysterical."

The official also stated that the problem in that region of the country is the subject of careful study by the National Security Council. Minister Gomez did not reject the possibility that the trial of the crew members of the HK-1291 would be subject to a change of venue, with a view to guaranteeing fair administration of justice.

"The Released Men Have Disappeared"

It is worth noting that the crew of the HK-1291 was released by Judge Altamira at 1800 hours on 15 June and that this fact was widely disseminated by the press and radio. A mere 24 hours before the meeting of the Attorney General and the Minister of Justice, the newspaper EL SIGLO stated in an editorial:

"The truth of the matter is that nobody did anything to Judge Altamar. We learned that the accused men who were released have disappeared. No one knows where they are. And justice continues on its way.

"Legal Monstrosity"

The prosecutor delegate for criminal matters, Dr Gonzalo Mejia Picon, when questioned about the release of the above-mentioned three men, said:

"It seems to me that we are looking at a legal monstrosity because the evidence which we have obtained from the press is so conclusive that I can't believe any judge in the republic would accept such fantastic stories as those told by the Colombians who appear to be involved in the case you are discussing with me."

Visbal, Reyes and Olarte, as reported by the various communications media, said that some men who were in the above-mentioned airplane had kidnapped them, then took them to a certain place in La Guajira where they had remained several days after the seizure of the HK-1291 with its million-dollar cargo of marihuana.

"Release Is Absurd"

Mejia Picon, who was questioned by EL ESPECTADOR several hours before Attorney General Serrano made a statement on the same subject, added that "the story told by those criminals is so wild that it would be hardly accepted for a James Bond movie or 'Mission Impossible'."

The official added that "it was principally because of their story that their release seems so absurd to me. The facts supplied to us by the newspapers permit a very clear finding with respect to their guilt.

The prosecutor delegate emphasized that "if the judge released those men, with the facts on hand which we all know, the evidence regarding the criminals must have been crystal clear. There is no other explanation for that determination. The story they told, in my opinion, cannot be accepted by any sensible person."

Use of Alibi

Mejia Picon stated that "all criminals use alibis to obtain their release; however, if such things are accepted, without proof, then no one in Colombia has committed nor will commit a crime of any kind."

Greatly concerned over this incident, the prosecutor delegate added that "if an airplane loaded with marihuana left Colombia, as evidently it did, and then the conclusion is reached that there was no crime, this means that Decree 1188, on the subject of drug trafficking, has entirely lost its force."

He went on to say that "the criminals' story is absurd from beginning to end, particularly when they say that they were assaulted in the airplane, for as everybody knows there is usually control over the access of persons to airliners."

The same official commented that "if we allow these things to go unnoticed, we can then say that the earth has swallowed us up." He said that "this seems to confirm what we are in the Never-Never Land, because the more we go over this incident the less we can believe that a judge of the republic would so easily accept alibis of the kind we have discussed."



ROBERTO LOPEZ



WALTER OLARTE



RAFAEL VISBAL

Blue Ribbon Investigating Committee Appointed

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 1

[Text] A "high level" review of the decision handed down by Judge Edilberto Altamar de la Cruz was conducted yesterday by the Attorney General of the nation, Jaime Serrano Rueda, and the Minister of Justice, Cesar Gomez Estrada, to determine whether any crime was committed when the crew of the HK-1291 was ordered released.

The high officials were in Barranquilla until 1600 hours and from the early hours of the morning conducted an exhaustive analysis of the various documents in the bill of particulars to determine whether there was really insufficient evidence against the accused, Roberto Lopez, Rafael Visbal and Walter Olarte, who were released.

It is expected that during the day the Attorney General and the Minister of Justice will issue a statement on the handling of this legal proceeding and the decisions to be adopted vis-a-vis Judge Altamar.

Unofficial sources in the Office of the Attorney General revealed that it is possible that Minister of Justice Cesar Gomez Estrada will go to the Criminal Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice today to solicit advice concerning the viability of a change of venue for the trial; however, this was not confirmed by any official source.

The change of venue can be solicited ex officio for the government by the Ministry of Justice or at the request of a party to a trial by the Office of the Attorney General.

Judge Can't Be Overruled; High Level Concern Mounts

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 10-A

[Article by Rodriguez Calderon]

[Text] "The decision of the Second Criminal Circuit Judge, Edilberto Altamar de la Cruz, cannot be changed by the Office of the Attorney General because in this case the judge is autonomous," the attorney general of the republic, Jaime Serrano Rueda, told a group of newsmen who approached him in the El Prado Hotel where Minister of Justice Cesar Gomez Estrada is staying.

Security Measures

The two high government officials reviewed the legal actions taken in connection with the case of the AEROSUCRE airplane, HK-1291, which was seized with [a cargo of] marihuana in the United States. They moved about the city with a security cordon consisting of secret agents of F-2, DAS [Administrative Department of Security], B-2, the Army and uniformed personnel of the Police and Army.

At 1700 hours, they met with the regional attorney general of the Barranquilla district, Dr Franco Munera, and the Judicial Police coordinator assigned to the Office of the Attorney General who is in charge of the investigations of the case, Rafael Antonio Gutierrez Cespedes, officials with whom Attorney General Serrano Rueda and Minister of Justice Cesar Gomez had a long discussion.

Decision Cannot Be Overturned

Despite the barrier set up around these officials by security agents, we were able to interview them briefly. The Attorney General said: "Help us to move forward. We are concerned and are conducting a rigorous investigation; however, the Attorney General's office will not be able to sanction, will not be able to change the decision rendered by Judge Ahamar Altamar, who released the three crewmen of a Colombian airliner of the AEROSUCRE company for lack of evidence which would warrant their detention." The airliner made an emergency landing on a highway in the United States, loaded with marihuana. The judge's decision has been described by high officials of Colombian justice as "a legal monstrosity," unprecedented in the country.

Despite having indicated his concern, Serrano Rueda said that "the judge has his superior and it will be the latter who will determine whether there is cause to sanction him. We have come here only to investigate this matter and we will make a report on it."

Change of Venue

Minister of Justice Cesar Gomez Estrada indicated the purpose of this trip was merely to investigate and to become acquainted with the case. He added that the trial had been given a change of venue. A judge will be appointed in Bogota to hear the case. Roberto Lopez, Walter Olarte Yance [sic] and Rafael Visbal, the crewmen implicated in this case, will be summoned to make statements and, if the judge determines it to be appropriate, he will order that they be detained once again.

Security Council

The minister added that he will travel to Santa Marta Wednesday morning where he will preside over a security council which will be established to fight drug trafficking and cultivation.

Finally, Attorney General Serrano Rueda said that an in-depth investigation will be made of all officials who have anything to do with drug trafficking cases. "The government is interested in seeing that judges act in accordance with the law and that they not give cause for the loss of faith in the judicial system," he added.



Walter Olarte and Roberto Lopez, as they gave preliminary statements to the Barranquilla F-2. They are charged with being principals in marihuana trafficking in the case of the light plane which cracked up in La Guajira.
(Photo by Tito Vega)

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COLOMBIA

'MINI-ENTEBBE' AT SANTA MARTA FAILS

Burned Trafficker Rescue Attempt

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jun 77 pp 1-A, 6-A

[Article by Walter Martinez]

[Text] Santa Marta, 15 Jun--DAS [Administrative Department of Security] arrested five Americans in an attempt to free their drug trafficking countryman who yesterday was admitted to the local hospital, the victim of serious burns suffered when a marihuana-laden airplane burned in La Guajira.

The mafiosi were arrested as they were putting the injured man in an airplane with U.S. registration which was waiting at the Simon Bolivar airport in this city, after having removed him surreptitiously from the San Juan Hospital, apparently with the complicity of employees of the medical center.

In what is considered "the most spectacular escape," DAS prevented the international mafia of drug traffickers from thumbing their noses at the Colombian authorities as happened a few months ago when another American, Charles Smith, thwarted the surveillance of the hospital in which he was confined and, with the assistance of several fellow Americans, left the country aboard an airplane which was waiting for him at the local air terminal.

On this occasion, the escape was more surprising in that they went so far as to use a Red Cross ambulance--having paid for its services beforehand--to remove the drug trafficker through the rear door of the hospital, employing a false medical certificate, and to take him to the airport, where they were preparing to board the plane when he was apprehended by DAS, along with four Americans and the pilot, all of whom were placed under arrest.

The prisoners are: Anthony Gekakis, age 54, who was born in New York; Stephen Clay Bolling, age 36, from Texas; Jeffrey Lee Ellis, 35, from Nevada; Jose M. Parada, from Nevada; and Jerry Lee Wilson, 34, the pilot of the aircraft, a Lear Jet.

According to the story given to EL TIEMPO by the DAS sectional chief, Capt Acevedo, the incident took place as follows:

Bruce Adams, the American confined to the San Juan de Dios Hospital for serious burns suffered when the light, marihuana-laden plane he was in crashed and burned on "Las Tetas" hill in La Guajira, was removed from the hospital a little before noon today through the rear door without the authorization of the medical and police authorities and taken in a Red Cross ambulance to the airport. There, four American nationals and the pilot were waiting in an airplane, without ID documents. The DAS detectives learned of the escape and followed the ambulance, arresting the escapee [and his friends] as they were boarding the airplane.

The prisoners stated that this was a rescue mission because the injured man "was dying" and they, therefore, had to remove him. However, they had acted without compliance with the formalities of the situation and without official permission.

During the initial investigations, the police found a receipt which implicates a hospital doctor and other employees who apparently assisted in the escape of the injured man.

The transportation of the sick man to the airport cost 120 pesos, according to a document which reads as follows: "I received from Cristian Mattos the sum of 120 pesos (\$120) cash for the transportation of Mr. N.N. to the Simon Bolivar airport in an ambulance owned by the Red Cross. Santa Marta, 15 June 1977. Signed: Ana O. de Roca."

From this receipt, it is deduced that Dr Cristian Mattos is an accomplice in this action and that to cover up his deed he did not give the name of the injured man but simply wrote: N.N.

It is believed that the same doctor issued the hospital release order.

In the meantime, there are three Americans being held in Riohacha in connection with the La Guajira incident. Apparently, they are part of the crew of the airplane which burned on "Las Tetas" hill.

These events have created a sensation in the various sectors of Santa Marta and Riohacha; and the authorities of these two cities are working together to get to the bottom of the matter, for it is believed that the imprisoned Americans may be the key to the unmasking of the powerful chiefs of the mafia organizations operating in this region.

The Itinerary

The episode which culminated in the arrest of the Americans in Santa Marta and the thwarting of the escape attempt of the injured pilot was from the outset replete with all the trappings of a television police story.

EL TIEMPO reported in its national edition yesterday that pilot Bruce Allen [sic] crashed with an airplane loaded with marihuana--which still has not been located by the authorities--as he attempted to take off from a clandestine airport situated on "La Teta Hill" in upper La Guajira.

The aircraft burned and Allen, the pilot, suffered serious burns. However, he was helped on a timely basis by the other members of the crew who removed him from the wreckage of the plane--and it is not known how--secured a vehicle which took them from upper La Guajira to the city of Santa Marta.

During their trip with pilot Bruce, those who were helping him had to travel the length of the super highway which links La Guajira with the capital of Magdalena. Obviously, they had to pass through all of the checkpoints installed along the route--at least 16, including customs posts and police checkpoints--without anyone being able to explain how they were able to conceal from the authorities the fact that they were carrying an injured man under circumstances that placed them outside the law.

Medical Personnel, Others Involved

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Jun 77 p 8-A

[Article by Walter Martinez P.]

[Text] A Peace Corps nurse assigned to La Guajira, Paula Terminice, and two doctors of the local hospital, Cristian Mattos and another with the last name of Corvacho are implicated in the attempted escape of drug trafficker Bruce Allen whom [his friends] tried to take out of the country in a private plane.

It was reported today that the American drug trafficker who was injured when a DC-6 airplane crashed at a site which has not yet been determined could be a key person in the uncovering of a powerful international ring of drug traffickers which is operating between Colombia and the United States.

According to investigations conducted by F-2, it seems that several organizations of traffickers were interested in Bruce Allen; therefore, he is considered an important figure in that mafia.

F-2 learned that the American had been helped since his confinement in the hospital by a powerful Santa Marta trafficker who presumably directed the entire rescue operation involving the injured man by six of his countrymen who attempted to take him out of the country in an executive-type light plane, with U.S. registration number N-4641. This is a six-passenger, two turbine engine plane, painted white with blue and black horizontal lines which was piloted by Jerry Lee Wilson.

The airplane arrived at the Simon Bolivar airport from Las Vegas. When the secret agents of F-2 reached the air terminal the two drug traffickers, with their injured countryman who had been taken out of the hospital ambulance, were preparing to board it.

The light plane was turned over to the Prosecutor of the Judicial District and, during an inspection conducted this morning by the chief of F-2 and the Prosecutor, several grams of very pure cocaine were found in it.

Persons Implicated

The secret authorities are trying to locate the various persons who, apparently are implicated in the thwarted escape of trafficker Bruce Adams. These persons include two doctors: Cristian Mattos, who paid for the Red Cross ambulance service for transportation to the airport and a doctor whose last name is Corvacho who had treated the injured man from the very beginning and who gave the order for his release.

According to the report which has come to the attention of EL TIEMPO, this man named Corvacho said at 1030 hours that he had to move the injured man to another hospital center and at 1145 hours--45 minutes later--he stated that the American would be taken to the United States. He then personally took him out of the hospital through the rear door where the ambulance which transported him to the airport was waiting.

What Happened in Riohacha

In the meantime, Riohacha police, F-2 and DAS squads attempted to locate the exact spot where the plane--a DC-6--crashed, burned and inflicted serious burns on Bruce Adams. It was said that the aircraft probably had gone down in the region of "Pajaro," some 50 kilometers from Riohacha.

The official account reveals that Adams was taken to the Nuestra Senora Los Remedios in Riohacha and was transferred from there to Santa Marta. He was brought to this capital in an ambulance from the Riohacha hospital and was accompanied by the Peace Corps nurse who serves in La Guajira, Paula Terminice. The drug trafficker was also accompanied by one of his countrymen who disappeared from the Santa Marta de Dios Hospital when he observed a police officer there.

Attack Against Secret Police Agent

The gringo's stay in the hospital of Santa Marta has been marked by unusual and spectacular episodes which took place in a period of less than 24 hours.

As a matter of fact, prior to the attempted escape, on the first night of confinement of the mafioso, there was a criminal attack against the F-2 agent who was guarding him.

According to information obtained exclusively by EL TIEMPO, a man from La Guajira fired four consecutive shots of his revolver at the secret agent without hitting his target. This incident took place Tuesday night when the gunman, whose last name is Iguaran, came to the hospital and took the agent who was guarding the gringo by surprise. Without speaking a word, he fired at the agent four times; however, he did not succeed in hitting him. At the sound of the shots, a uniformed police officer, in the emergency room entered and fired at the attacker without striking him, as he had already taken flight. However, he was captured and is now being held on a charge of attempted homicide.

Peace Corps Member Arrested

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 17 Jun 77 p 1

[Text] Santa Marta, 16 Jun--An American woman whose first name was released as Paola and who is a member of the so-called Peace Corps was arrested by the police yesterday during an operation designed to locate the other members of the ring of drug traffickers which attempted to take the pilot of the plane which crashed somewhere in La Guajira to the United States. She is a key piece in the investigations.

It was learned that the persons who were arrested yesterday as they attempted to leave the country with pilot Bruce Adams and who answer to the names of Stephen Clay Bolling, Charles Gecaks [sic], Jerry Lee Wilson, Jeffrey Lee Ellis and Jose M. Parada are being held in the army general headquarters to prevent another escape try.

It was also said that the authorities have the names of the persons who make up the rest of the ring, whose arrest is expected in the next few hours.

Investigation Continues

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 17 Jun 77 pp 1-A, 10-A

[Article by Ililo Acevedo Silva]

[Text] Santa Marta, 16 Jun--The local airport remained under partial military control today on the heels of the actions perpetrated yesterday by members of an international ring of American drug traffickers.

Surveillance at the airport is being maintained by units of the 5th Infantry Battalion of Cordoba, National Police agents and DAS agents who are guarding the executive-type jet plane in which the five Americans entered the country in an effort to rescue a drug trafficker who was injured in La Guajira where a light plane loaded with marihuana crashed.

According to orders issued by police headquarters, Magdalena division, no one can approach the plane, least of all photographers trying to carry out their newspaper assignments.

In the meantime, the secret organizations are working intensively to locate five persons who are closely linked to the ring which attempted to carry out the movie-like rescue. It was said in investigative quarters that DAS has the names of persons implicated; however, these have not been released for obvious reasons.

The five Americans are still being held in this section's DAS headquarters.

In a related matter, it was learned that the Office of Civil Aeronautics, through the administrator of the Simon Bolivar airport, had stated that the crew of the jet with registration number N-464-J [sic] did have a flight plan which listed their itinerary as Las Vegas-Santa Marta, with a stop in Puerto Principe, Haiti for refueling. This statement was made exclusively to EL ESPECTADOR by sources at Civil Aeronautics, which sent extensive documentation to the Magdalena DAS headquarters.

Burned Trafficker Dies

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 10-A

[Article by Ulilo Acevedo Silva]

[Text] American drug trafficker Bruce Adams died yesterday as the result of the serious burns he received when the light plane in which he was flying crashed.

The plane, loaded with marihuana, went down several days ago on "La Teta" hill, department of La Guajira.

Bruce Adams had been brought to this capital by a woman identified as Paola Terminnica [sic] and a man, whose name is not known, both of whom are American nationals, so that he could be treated in the principal health center.

As it turned out, shortly thereafter, members of the drug "mafia" co-operated closely with Bruce Adams, paying for his treatment in the Pensioners' Ward and in addition to that ordering an around-the-clock doctor and nurse.

Rescue Attempt

On the day following his arrival in Santa Marta, it was determined that the condition of Bruce Adams was more serious [than originally thought].

Faced with this situation, the members of the international organization requested the dispatch of friends "to help a buddy who was injured in an air accident."

Thus it was that an executive-type jet plane with American registration number N-464-J arrived in Santa Marta transporting five Americans who carried out the most spectacular large-scale criminal act in the country in recent times with their rescue attempt.

However, the rescue try by the American drug traffickers was thwarted by members of the Administrative Department of Security, DAS, who prevented the escape.

He Was To Have Been Moved

Now, with the death of Adams, the authorities and investigators working on this case have directed their attention to the five Americans who came to this country to get their pal out.

Hours before the death of Bruce Adams, this correspondent learned that he "was in extremely serious condition." It was also said by one of the doctors that the American did not have long to live, since his injuries made it necessary to place him in "intensive care."

On one occasion, it was said that he had to be transferred to the Military Hospital in Bogota; however, this was later rejected, since there was not enough money available to cover the costs required for the trip and subsequent medical treatment.

The identity of the persons who "cooperated" closely with Adams in the payment to the Pensioners' Ward and the around-the-clock doctor and nurse has been a mystery to the investigators. However, these services were withdrawn when DAS thwarted the rescue attempt.

Would-Be Rescuers To Be Deported

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 10-A

[Text] The situation of the five Americans who were arrested several days ago in Santa Marta when they attempted to rescue pilot Bruce Adams who was confined to the San Juan de Dios Hospital, in Santa Marta, will be resolved tomorrow or next Thursday.

Adams, who died yesterday in this hospital, had suffered serious burns when a light plane in which he planned to transport a large shipment of marihuana to the United States caught fire. This incident occurred in La Guajira territory, according to the official report.

A well-informed official source told this newspaper yesterday that the site where the accident took place has been located and that the airplane apparently has been found by the police.

Americans Brought to Bogota

The American nationals arrested in the capital of Magdalena answer to the names of Stephen Clay Bolling, Antony [sic] Gekakis, Jeffrey [sic] Lee Ellis, Jose M. Parada and Harry [sic] Lee Wilson. They were taken to Bogota and turned over to the Foreign Division of DAS, an office which is headed by Dr Heriberto Tamayo, an official who performs the duties of legal adviser to this investigative organization.

When questioned yesterday afternoon about the fate of the five foreigners, Dr Tamayo said:

"I have just today started to study the dossier; and therefore, I have nothing to say in this regard. Before I make any decision, I have to hear the pleas of those American citizens."

Attorneys Arrive From U.S.

Accompanied by a well-known Bogota attorney, two lawyers from Las Vegas, state of Nevada, appeared in the offices of DAS yesterday, ready to represent the five men imprisoned in Santa Marta, on behalf of Jet Avia Ltd. Company.

This company owns the hospital plane in which drug trafficker Bruce Adams was to have been taken out of the country. The aircraft has been impounded and is at the disposition of the official investigating this case.

It is assumed that the modern aircraft will become part of the DAS fleet, on the basis of current regulations, according to the terms of which airplanes involved in drug trafficking automatically become part of the fleet of the organization which takes the action.

The two American attorneys, it was said, had to contract for the services of their Colombian colleague because they are prevented from acting in this case. Consequently, they will be limited to advising the latter as regards securing the release of the five prisoners.

Trial or Deportation

An individual well-informed on the situation of the five foreigners said that they can be deported for entering the country without having fulfilled the legal requirements, since they lack the necessary visas.

The most serious thing that could happen to them is a decision that they be tried for violation of national sovereignty or for drug trafficking, for which there are concrete charges against them and with respect to which criminal military justice has competence.

It was said that a small amount of cocaine was found in the impounded aircraft which was duly analyzed with positive findings.

However, the most serious allegation is the one with reference to the surreptitious action of the five men in their attempt to remove the above-mentioned Adams from the country, a man specifically charged with drug trafficking. This means that those who attempted to rescue him can be treated as accomplices.

He Was an Important Man

Inquiries made yesterday afternoon by EL ESPECTADOR revealed that the late Bruce Adams was a "big fish" in the mafia of drug traffickers who are operating between Colombia and the United States.

According to comments on this score by an official engaged in the fight against drug traffickers, it is only in this way that one can explain the dispatch of a hospital plane with five persons commissioned to rescue him. He stated that other activities which took place in connection with this American national permit the conclusion that he was an important "guy" in the American mafia.

"The Dollar Is a Corruptor"

The chief of the Attorney General's Office for Criminal Matters, Dr Gonzalo Mejia Picon, said yesterday that "the corruption which is being produced in Colombian society has a lot to do with the dollar, since every door that it knocks upon opens."

Mejia Picon complained that "the Foreign Ministry hands out visas like they are going out of style, without thinking of the harm done to us by certain Americans who do not come here exactly as tourists."

The high Public Ministry official indicated that he was seriously concerned over the latest incidents in the drug trafficking sector and said that "the nation is on the brink of a serious crisis due particularly to the marked cowardice of the people."

"The Cannot Do Government"

Without pulling punches, the prosecutor declared that "at this hour of trial, the entire country must stand up, as the state has shown itself to be incapable of combatting crime which is suffocating us."

Mejia Picon added: "The worst thing that can happen to a republic is to have a cannot do government."

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COLOMBIA

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STEPS INTO DRUG PICTURE

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 10-A

[Text] Forceful measures to combat drug trafficking will be taken next week, according to what this newspaper was told yesterday afternoon by Dr Jairo Eduardo Rivas, executive secretary of the National Drug Council.

The official said that the problem was being carefully analyzed by the National Security Council, an organization which includes the attorney general of the nation, the director of the National Police, the chief of DAS [Administrative Department of Security] and the ministers of justice, government and defense.

Rivas stated that the measures will be of a preventive and repressive kind "because the statistics we have on our successes against the drug traffickers are not satisfactory."

The spokesman of the National Drug Council declared that the measures to be taken will be forceful because it is necessary to check the increasing activity of the drug traffickers.

Judge To Be Investigated

When questioned as to whether an official had yet been appointed to investigate the conduct of the second criminal circuit judge of Barranquilla, Edilberto Altamar de la Cruz, he said that such a thing will have to be decided by the attorney general, Dr Serrano Rueda.

Dr Rivas did not say when the National Security Council will meet; however, he indicated that this organization will order the measures to be taken, in accordance with the seriousness of the situation which has been produced recently in the country.

The official said that Attorney General Serrano and the minister of justice, Dr Cesar Gomez Estrada will travel to Barranquilla to personally look into what had happened and to make determinations.

"The problem is being given all the attention it needs, as demonstrated by the fact that these two high officials have gone to the Atlantic coast," Rivas remarked.

COLOMBIA

MARIHUANA CRACKDOWN ON ENTIRE ATLANTIC COAST

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Jun 77 p 13-A

[Text] The serious problem of marihuana cultivation and trafficking, its export to the United States and the activities of the organized mafias in the departments of La Guajira and Magdalena will be confronted by the national government with all the resources at its disposal, according to a decision made last night during a meeting of the National Security Council.

At a session during which straight-from-the-shoulder reports were presented by the mayor of Santa Marta, Francisco Davila, and the national director of F-2, Col Carlos Guzman Benitez, the National Security Council adopted unprecedented measures in the fight against drug traffickers designed to definitively remedy the alarming situations which have reached a critical point in the last few weeks.

The principal measures adopted last night include movement of military police and secret organizations to the departments of La Guajira and Magdalena. The Army, police, DAS [Administrative Department of Security] and F-2 will come to an agreement during the next few hours on a combined plan the details of which, obviously, will be kept secret to ensure the success of the operation.

The immediate measures ordered last night include the absolute suspension of all licenses permitting the bearing of arms in the jurisdiction of the two departments.

Also, a strict system will be implemented for the control of all foreigners living in the above-mentioned sections of the country, if it cannot be shown that they are engaged in honest work.

It was also learned that the gigantic plan for the eradication of marihuana and the mafias will involve all of the units of the various forces needed to combat the activities of the criminals. It was stated that the Armed Forces of Colombia will take action to establish rigorous control over all national and foreign airplanes that are detected on illicit flights throughout the northern coastal section of Colombia.

COLOMBIA

ANOTHER LARGE MARIHUANA FIELD FOUND IN SANTA MARTA

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 18 Jun 77 p 12-A

[Article by Ulilo Acevedo Silva]

[Text] Santa Marta, 17 Jun--A marihuana field with more than 20,000 plants was discovered and burned by rural units of the Administrative Department of Security, DAS, Magdalena section, during a police action on a banana plantation in the municipality of Cienaga.

The rural DAS located the field on the plantation named "Maria Soleda," situated in Orihueca, district of Cienaga, whose owner appears to be Jose Molina.

Ten Arrested

It was also reported that ten persons were arrested and a late-model automobile was seized. The prisoners included the administrator of the plantation who was identified as Leon Ureche Sevilla.

It was also stated that the marihuana field was estimated to be worth some 10 million pesos.

The list of persons arrested during this action by DAS against drug traffickers on the northern coast of the country includes the following: Feliciano Cantillo Franco, Orangel Zapata Jimenez, Orlando Rudas, Jose Francisco Cardenas Valdeblanquez, Luis Cantillo Franco, Alejandro Saltarin, Jose Dario Perez Zamora and Ruben Antonio Pantojas Romero. All of these men are being held by DAS.

The automobile which was also seized by the authorities is a 1976 Ford Ranger with license plate number PK-30-22.

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COLOMBIA

ANOTHER MARIHUANA PLANE CRASHES; PILOT SEIZED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 10-A

[Article by Ulilo Acevedo Silva]

[Text] Santa Marta, 21 Jun--In an incident similar to the one which occurred in La Guajira, an American light plane which was transporting a large shipment of marihuana crashed in an area near Cienaga Grande; the pilot of the aircraft was arrested by secret police agents.

According to information released by the police authorities, the light plane with U.S. registration went down in Cienaga Grande, which is located 40 highway minutes from Santa Marta.

The fragmentary information provided by the authorities indicates that the light plane which was transporting a valuable shipment of marihuana crashed to earth and caught fire. The cause of the crash is unknown.

This mysterious case is being investigated by F-2 officials and the Administrative Department of Security, organizations which are taking the actions required to locate the exact site where the plane went down.

It was also indicated that the name of the imprisoned pilot is Warren Edrguan Wolden, who is being held incommunicado in DAS headquarters in the capital of Atlantico.

Although secrecy is complete, in investigative quarters it was said that in the next few hours aerial reconnaissance is expected over the region of Cienaga Grande to locate the aircraft. Inhabitants of that area said that they had observed the manner in which an "aircraft" had plunged to earth; however, they did not state whether the plane caught fire nor whether there were any victims.

This latest incident in the marihuana traffic sector is a veritable act of defiance by the international rings of drug traffickers who are operating the length and breadth of the northern coast of the country.

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COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA DISCOVERED, 60 ARRESTED--Bogota, 30 Jun--The Colombian authorities today arrested 60 persons in connection with the discovery of two marihuana plantations on the Atlantic Coast. One of the plantations, discovered in Valledupar, had 300 plants and several loads ready for export. The other plantation, located in Fundacion, had an area of more than 3 hectares. Colombian coffee producer Leonidas Londono recently asked the government to legalize marihuana in order to stop it from competing with coffee. Many former coffee plantations are currently dedicated to the cultivation of the plant, for its sale yields huge revenues. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0118 GMT 1 Jul 77 PA]

TRAFFICKERS' ARRESTED IN RIO HACHA--Guajira--Troops aboard Colombian air force helicopters this morning captured 42 drug traffickers, mostly U.S. citizens, confiscated 3,800 kilos of marihuana and an arsenal including 10 machineguns, 10 pistols and 8 boxes of ammunition near Mingueo, Rio Hacha District, when they discovered and captured a five-station wagon caravan which was headed for a clandestine airport in the vicinity of Mingueo. The shipment was to be transported to Miami. The prisoners were placed at the disposal of the military authorities. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Jun 77 PA]

ARRESTS IN BUCARAMANGA--The administrative Department of Security (DAS) arrested two drug traffickers in possession of 2 kilos of cocaine. They were identified as Juan Gonzalez and Hugo Rodriguez who were planning to fly to New York aboard an Aero Condor airline plane. [Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 30 Jun 77 PA]

PLANE SEIZED NEAR FUNDACION--Barranquilla, 15 Jun--A light plane loaded with marihuana was seized by the authorities near Fundacion, department of Magdalena. Three of its occupants escaped; however, one was captured. According to the official report which was released here today, a Cessna light plane with U.S. registration set down on a clandestine landing strip where secret agents of F-2 were awaiting the aircraft. The agents fell upon the traffickers just as they were about to get into the plane. Three of the foreigners escaped; however, a Colombian identified as Jaime Vazquez was arrested by the authorities. There were 190 bales of "export type" marihuana in the airplane which are worth 2 million pesos. The marihuana had been taken aboard at one of the farms in the region of Cesar on which the drug is grown. The landing on the clandestine airstrip near Fundacion was made to pick up three gringos who are fugitives. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Jun 77 p 13-A] 8143

COSTA RICA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTATION--Special police forces have discovered a marihuana plantation with approximately 15,000 plants in Valle de la Estrella, Limon. Two men, Vargas and Gomez, have been arrested for questioning. [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 28 Jun 77 p 14-a PA]

NARCOTICS SEIZURE FIGURES--Since the beginning of this year until 22 June, Costa Rican narcotics department agents have seized 2,515 grams of cocaine, 22,096 grams of cut marihuana, 403 marihuana plants, 180 grams of marihuana seed, 20 grams of hashish, 5,006 marihuana cigarettes and 3 grams of other drugs. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jun 77 PA]

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ECUADOR

BRIEFS

INTERPOL ARRESTS COCAINE TRAFFICKERS--Twenty-two kilos of cocaine paste were confiscated in the city of Guayaquil when a special operation was carried out by the Narcotics Police. Col Arturo Pazmino Fierro, national director of narcotics and INTERPOL, together with officers and members of the Guayas Drug Service, performed the operation last weekend. The Colombian traffickers were under surveillance from the moment they entered Ecuador to buy drugs in Guayaquil. The police work ended successfully with the arrest of four Colombian traffickers and one Ecuadorean, just when they were engaging in the illicit transactions. Those under arrest are: Arbit Leon Nora, Jorge Enrique Cuervo, Alirio Mejia and Rosalba Rondon, Colombians, and Constante Mora Ramirez, Ecuadorean. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Jun 77 p 24] 9015

HEROIN TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Machala (AEP)--A heroin trafficker, Enrique Vera Rueda, was arrested by agents of the Office of Narcotics and INTERPOL when he attempted to distribute it among addicts of the drug. A large quantity of sacks of marihuana, representing an investment of thousands of sures, was found in his home after a meticulous search. Placed in the custody of the First Criminal Court, he is expected to state who was involved in this illicit activity, since it develops that the planting of marihuana in strategic sectors near the Peruvian border is continuing. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 Jun 77 p 24] 9015

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

IMSS OFFICIAL DISCUSSES PROBLEMS OF ADDICTION

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Jun 77 p 16-A

[Text] Maria Eugenia Moreno, chief of the Social Service Center of IMSS [Mexican Social Security Institute] and founding president of the Juvenile Integration Centers, invited the members of the National Institute of Mexican Youth to participate as volunteers in confronting the problem of drug addiction. She said that adults frequently state opinions of adolescents which take the form of severe criticism, somber predictions and excessive generalizations about young people, rather than generations. She declared that "the present situation is a threat to the existing social order."

She referred to "the causes of juvenile disorientation," during a series of conferences called "Five Women with Youth" organized by INJUVE [National Institute of Mexican Youth] organized by INJUVE [National Institute of Mexican Youth]. Hundreds of youths filled the Ignacio Manuel Altamirano auditorium of that institution, listened attentively and asked questions indicating an extraordinary concern over the problems being considered by the society.

Between interruptions for applause and exclamations of approval, Mrs Moreno observed that all of us have had the experience of being young; however, this fact does not customarily facilitate the understanding of new adolescents. She said that much can be done to improve this understanding and "to lessen the conflict between the adolescent and society and, in this way, facilitate the process of adolescence which is understood to be a [one or more words missing] phase, both for the individual and for society."

She pointed out that the importance of disorientation stemming from Mexico's accelerated rate of population growth which, has converted it into a country of young people. She indicated that young people are daily becoming more aware of themselves as a group, and this has led to an "adolescent subculture," with a language, a style of dress and a way of life which are greatly stimulated by the mass communications media, because they represent a growing market.

The Family: Social Matrix of Human Beings

Examining the causes of this disorientation, Mrs Moreno emphasized that "the family, the social matrix of human beings, is a fundamental institution for providing the needed affection at the right time and for the transmitting of suitable cultural models." When this primary institution fails, it is one of the most frequent causes of juvenile disorientation.

With respect to the social factor as a cause of disorientation, she said that for various reasons this has a harmful effect, like the migration from the countryside to the cities, which creates clusters of misery; the reduction in physical space suitable for the development of a pleasant life and harmonious development. She also mentioned the heavy burden of physical and emotional stimuli which cause a dispersion of emotional capability, with the frequent sacrifice of the emotional relationship with the individual's family group, as well as the heavy burden of contradictory information.

She also cited as causes for this disorientation the acceleration in the change in social structures which represents a big problem of adaptation for some individuals and who, for that very reason, fall into states of confusion and frustration; the incompatibility between what is taught in school and what is needed in the working world along with unemployment and underemployment.

In closing, she said "it is essential for us who are working with young people-- because of our professions and our love for them--to see to it that our institutions do not become obstacles to the development of the adolescent but rather operate as effective assistance media for the overcoming of the identity crisis."

Seated at the table of honor with Mrs Moreno were: Silvia Hernandez, director general of INJUVE; Engineers Jorge Verea Arce and Julio Cesar Mena Brito, director of Youth Services and chief of the Consultative Council, respectively; and Roberto Pina Posadas, chief of the Office of Cultural Promotion.



Mrs Maria Eugenia Moreno, chief of the Social Service Center of IMSS and founding president of the Juvenile Integration Centers, invites members of INJUVE to actively participate in the fight against drug addiction.

MEXICO

DRUGS, A THREAT TO THE U.S. AND MEXICO

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 29 May 77 p 1-B

[The column Forjar by Juan Perez Avila]

[Text] The harmful trade covers the entire world but it is channeled primarily to the coveted American market. Drug trafficking has universal dimensions. It is grotesque and a great danger to all of us: children, youths and parents. No one is free from the threat of suffering--may this never happen--the stigma of drugs.

If just one member of a family gives into the temptation or curiosity, he will not only make an attempt against his own physical and moral integrity but also against that of all his family. The misfortune, the calamity, of becoming addicted to any narcotic will become the family's permanent problem and sorrow.

Since time immemorial, drugs have been used to subdue nations. This sadistic practice was used in Mainland China to submerge the yellow people into a deep and constant lethargy. This ended when Mao Tse-tung made his victorious march to expel from the national territory the enemies of his people. Mao may support exotic ideas contrary to our own but he was the leader who freed the people from the tentacles of drug addiction.

Now, all efforts are concentrated on supplying the enormous, large, limitless American market. Against our will, we Mexicans are in the midst of the current which comes from the four cardinal points of chaos and enters Uncle Sam's land by its coasts and frontiers.

During Echeverria's time, we once told a Yankee-phobe that the United States is so rich, so very rich, that they buy everything that is offered to them. If they are offered tarantulas, they will buy them.

Now they are buying all kinds of narcotics. Logically and naturally, the authorities of the great country at the north are worried. Drugs could lead to the reduction of the enormous industrial production and reduce the power of the United States.

Let us not forget that when the United States scratch themselves, we get mange. When they sneeze, we get fulminant pneumonia...Let us not forget this.

MEXICO

FIRST THE GOVERNMENT RELEASED MURDERERS, NOW DRUG ADDICTS

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 4 Jun 77 p 2-B

[Text] Under the pretext that President Jose Lopez Portillo, with the attorney general as intermediary, is attempting to continuously and tirelessly provide the people justice and guarantee respect for individual rights of the citizen, Oscar Flores, the attorney general, easily released 1,943 drug addicts accused of possessing narcotics.

This measure, apparently ordered by the president, involves moral and judicial irregularities. Penal action against the accused was dropped because the defendant had in his possession only a minute amount of marihuana and so the presumption is made that he is an addict, uses drugs occasionally, from time to time, so he should not be persecuted.

It looks like drug addicts and drug traffickers will be walking the streets with kilograms of drugs. The truth is that one does not know what more to expect. First the government set free murderers, each of whom was a guerrilla and now drug addicts and traffickers. What is going to become of us?

The only ones really benefitting are the great masters of the gangs who saw their customers in the jails. Now that they are being freed, they will have them back as customers. Both one and the other are happy but not so the citizens who are at the mercy of these persons who were not cured in the jails but return more dangerous than ever. This is a clear picture of how politicians who manage the gangs put pressure on the president who did not resist them and sent them flocks of their victims.

Under these conditions, Mexico will not have anybody in the jails and, as in the jungle, the rule of the survival of the fittest will soon prevail. We regret this because those who maintain decency and good habits will be the first victims.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FEDERAL POLICE AND TROOPS HAVE SHOOTOUT WITH MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 7 May 77 p 4

[Text] During a police action in the state of Oaxaca called "Operation Tuxtepac," the Federal Judicial Police confiscated 18 tons of marihuana, 890 kilos of seed of the same drug and destroyed marihuana fields covering a 263-hectare area.

While this operation was being carried out in the towns of Los Limones, Santiago Tuxtla, Palomares, Agencia de las Flores, Santa Rosa Sihualtepec and Santiago Tula, the federal police, supported by army troops, had a shootout with four drug traffickers.

Filogorio Leon Carrera and Martin Palacios Miguel, who were in charge of the fields, were wounded. Also arrested during this police action were Gilberto Jose Martinez, Hilario Miguel Candelario and Hipolito Nolasco.

According to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, after several days of investigation, at 1800 hours the federal police proceeded to the above-mentioned towns, which are in the district of Tuxtepec, in two helicopters.

They went through the towns one after the other and located packaged and unprocessed marihuana and marihuana seed, as well as large areas on which the weed was being grown. In the 23 fields discovered by the federal police, the marihuana plants were as high as 1.5 meters.

Yesterday, the attorney general of the republic, Oscar Flores, ordered the destruction of these fields, while the prisoners and the confiscated drug were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent of the state.

8143
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE THE SOURCES OF DRUGS

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Jun 77 p 8-A

[Text] Yesterday, federal authorities thoroughly interrogated drug addict Dario Berrones Prieto, age 21, who was arrested with a bottle of presumed toxic pills and another with liquid assumed to have been made with the drug in his possession.

Another person who escaped when the agents intervened is fully identified. His arrest is imminent.

The police report says that at 1830 hours, agents Hernandez and Mayorga, while making their patrol, noticed two persons acting suspiciously so the police intercepted them for questioning.

When they noticed the police action, the two persons ran to a neighboring area. They only captured Dario Berrones Prieto, age 21. While running, he threw away a small bottle which one of the agents picked up.

During the search of the prisoner, the agents found a disposable hypodermic syringe and another bottle.

One of the bottles had 18 tablets of "Valium" and the other a yellow liquid which seems to contain a drug.

Berrones Prieto was immediately remanded. He is 21 years old and resides at 1719 Canales.



[top right] Dario Berrones was carrying a disposable hypodermic syringe, a bottle of toxic pills and another apparently with a drug. (Foto Gutierrez)

[left] Dario Berrones Prieto. He was arrested for having in his possession a disposable hypodermic syringe, toxic pills and a drug. (Foto Gutierrez)

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

UNQUALIFIED DRUG STORE EMPLOYEES DISTRIBUTE NARCOTICS

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 23 May 77 pp 1-B, 8-B

[Text] Most drug stores do not have personnel qualified to have the responsibility of handling medications. Frequently, this results in the sale of narcotics leading youths to become drug addicts.

Dr Ernesto Arellano, coordinator of the School Hygiene Services in Tamaulipas, made this statement during the meeting, "Dialogues With the Press" organized by the Matamoros Newspapermen's Association.

He said that the employees frequently do not even have a secondary education but they prescribe medications when persons who cannot afford to pay a doctor request this.

This lack of a sense of responsibility, due to lack of training and professional ethics of pharmacists, fosters drug addiction of youths by providing them with toxic medications.

In a gathering with several members of the Newspapermen's Association, Dr Arellano, who has held several public health positions, said that this situation is very serious since drug stores are causing drug addiction in Mexico. According to studies on the subject, he said, the rate of drug addiction, especially among youths, increased by 800 percent between 1959 and 1969.

He believes that there is an imperative need for the authorities of the Secretariat of Health and Assistance to establish more control over the operation of drug stores. Employees should be required to be qualified and to act responsibly in the handling of medications to avoid the following:

1. Improper use of medications containing narcotics leading to drug addiction.
2. Drug stores employing unqualified youths should stop prescribing medicine to people with health problems.

The Tamaulipas coordinator of School Hygiene spoke to the representatives of several communications media on drug addiction in Mexico.

He said that because of its transcendence, "Drug addiction should be considered a public health problem. Drug addiction results from a series of socio-cultural factors which indirectly involve all society directly or indirectly although it is most prevalent among youths."

He emphasized that in Mexico drug addiction has not reached the levels of other countries but it is increasing throughout the nation.

After giving a general history of the origin of the use of drugs, Dr Ernesto Arellano said that countermeasures must be taken against drug addiction: Legal regulation of the distribution of medications; an educational program to inform on drugs and their influence on the activities of users; social steps favoring groups "exposed" to them, providing alternatives to drug use and general health steps for youths.

The Hospital Drug Addiction Rehabilitation Center Is Not Functional.

The general coordinator of school hygiene pointed out that the drug addict rehabilitation center which the SSA [Secretariat of Health and Assistance] will build next to the civilian Hospital "Dr Alfredo Pumarejo" will not be at all functional.

He said that under those conditions it will be only a social welfare pavilion which will not solve the drug addiction problem at the frontier.

He said that the frontier requires a Youth Integration Center where young people will receive a total rehabilitation from the drug addiction problem.

Centers of this type operate successfully in several places in the republic.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SUSPECTED ARMS SMUGGLER RELEASED ON BAIL

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 1 June 77

[Text] Another man arrested in the case in which customs guards captured a light airplane at the federal airport was set free.

Withly Villalvazo was arrested along with the pilot of the Bandehajer light plane and the Tampico PJF [Federal Judicial Police] group chief. When the three presumed smugglers planned to take off for the port of Tampico, they were arrested with smuggled bullets of several calibers and two high-powered rifles.

To obtain his release from the city jail, Withly Villalvazo posted in cash 5,000 pesos bail at the Nuevo Laredo Second District Court where Judge Luis Garcia Romero has been assigned the case.

The first person released was the light plane pilot when he proved at the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office that he was hired to make the trip and that his flight documents were in order. He was released due to lack of sufficient evidence to remand him.

Efrén Gomez Uribe, the Tampico PJF group chief, remains imprisoned charged with smuggling and violation of the Federal Firearm and Explosives Law.

Fernando Edgardo Velazquez, the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, found during the preliminary penal investigation sufficient evidence to hold the former PJF officer as the owner of the smuggled merchandise: about 1,200 bullets of several calibers and two high-powered rifles.

Withly left the jail during the early hours on the basis of the order of his release issued by the Nuevo Laredo District Court judge to the first instance penal court which in this city assists federal justice.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

NEW METHOD OF DISGUIISING MARIHUANA UNCOVERED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 6 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] Drug trafficking, abetted by the protection of many corrupt police officials, is increasing day by day.

The latest drug confiscation occurred yesterday in Monterrey. This was a bit of a sensation: odorless marihuana tablets resembling sheets of fibracel [brown laminated material used in electronics].

However, criminal ingenuity came a cropper during the maiden effort to export this product which is poisonous to health.

Federal agents in Nuevo Leon arrested a young man whose name is being kept secret to prevent the escape of the principal suppliers. The police found several packets of tablets on him which measured some 10 inches in length and 5 in width.

On the basis of the investigations conducted, the federal police concluded that the marihuana tablets could have been steam pressed through the use of equipment similar to that employed in the manufacture of fibracel. This makes it difficult to distinguish a piece of fibracel from a tablet of the drug.

This processed drug could be coming from the Pacific area as the result of Operation Condor in Culiacan: the traffickers have resorted to the most ingenious camouflages to continue their criminal drug business.

Methods of concealing drugs have included both unsophisticated and ingenious methods, such as transport in cans of tomato juice, pickled chiles and even in Christmas gift packages.

As for means of transport, the poisoners have used vehicles bearing the insignia or names of various official agencies, such as Social Security, Public Works and PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum].

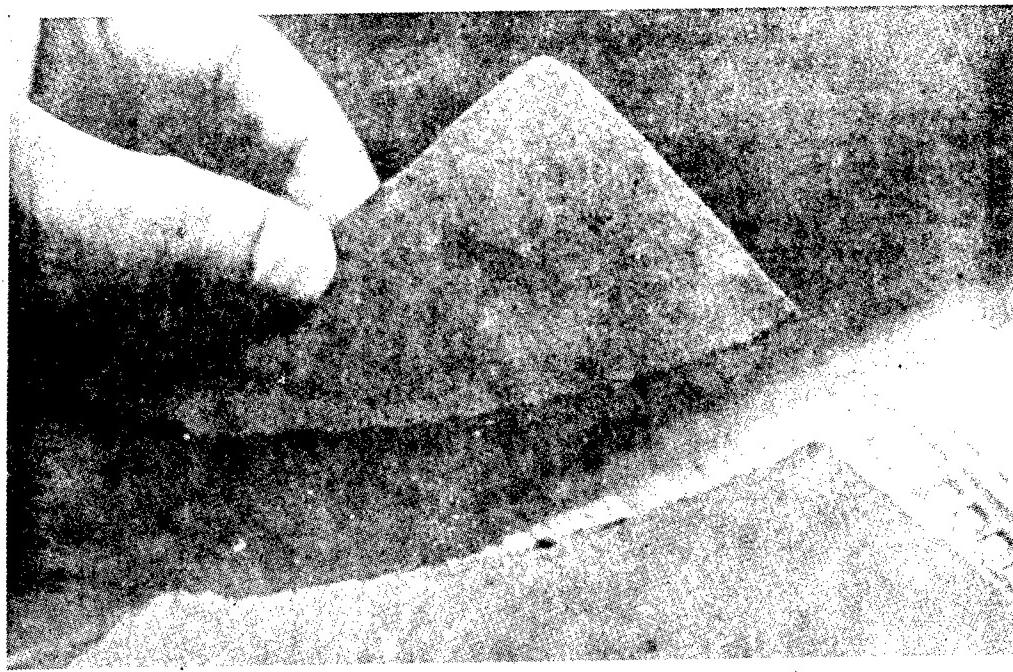
Now, on the basis of deductions by experts in the field of drug trafficking investigations, the tablets can be ground to permit its use in ordinary pipes, with the advantage of its being odorless thus not arousing suspicions. This does not diminish the effect of the toxic and stupefying drug which is continuing to claim victims at every social level of the population without distinction as to age.

Police Corruption a World Problem

It is obvious that the fight undertaken by the Mexican government through its various operations to dismantle the drug trafficking groups is a slow process.

And this is because bribes totaling thousands of dollars, to put it bluntly, are taken by many officers in the various police organizations to permit shipments of drugs to proceed unmolested.

During the international level meeting held in San Diego, California, it was established that the fight is being carried out relentlessly by some police officers; however, others unfortunately are vile servants of the large mafias. This makes it difficult to pursue the anti-drug trafficking campaign with the necessary force.



With the same effect. These are the marihuana tablets which drug traffickers are manufacturing and substituting for the traditional bricks. The drug tablets have the same toxic strength.

8143

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

INTERNATIONAL GANG OF MARIHUANA SMUGGLERS BROKEN UP

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 31 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] Commander Rafael Diaz Albores reported that an international marihuana smuggling organization was completely broken up by the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] who captured several trucks loaded with marihuana. Most of the members of the gang which operated between Oaxaca and the United States by way of Monterrey and Tampico confessed their illicit activities.

EL MANANA reported opportunely on the seizure of 2 tons of marihuana in a truck camouflaged with pineapples, the driver of which lost control of the vehicle, crashed into a house and escaped, abandoning the marihuana. The driver is Antonio Angeles Tellez. He immediately fled to Oaxaca but instead of going into hiding, he took another truck loaded with 2 more tons of marihuana and again went to Monterrey. When the PJF intercepted him, he escaped but was captured by PJF agents 12 hours later.

Mario Tello Garfias, who was following in another truck loaded with marihuana, was arrested together with Angeles Tellez.

The two men confessed that a few days previously, they had delivered in Tampico three trucks with several tons of marihuana. When the PJF investigated this, they found that the drug was in the United States.

On the basis of the prisoners' confessions, PJF agents captured the main leaders of the gang. Diaz Albores reported that more arrests are expected in Monterrey, Tampico, Oaxaca, Reynosa and probably at this frontier. Thus, so as not to obstruct the investigations, the names were withheld.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SENTENCES FOR POSSESSION OF HEROIN, WEAPON

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Jun 77 p 3-B

[Text] According to reports from the court, yesterday the Second District Court judge sentenced two men arrested for trafficking heroin. The federal prosecuting attorney presented impressive evidence.

Florencio Garcia Zamora was found guilty of a crime against public health under the categories of possession and trafficking of heroin and of carrying a weapon reserved for the exclusive use of the army. He was sentenced to 7 years 2 months imprisonment and fined 7,245 pesos.

Alejandro Lara Garcia was found guilty of a crime against public health under the category of possession of heroin. He was sentenced to 5 years 3 months imprisonment and fined 5,071.50 pesos.

Fidencio Samaniego Zamora was acquitted of the charge of possession of heroin and set free yesterday.

A report obtained at the Second District Court states that the Federal Judicial Police captured the aforementioned men on 5 November 1975 in Ciudad Diaz Ordaz, Tamaulipas.

PJF agents raided a house at 101 Rio Bravo, Ciudad Diaz Ordaz, and surprised several men, including Octavio Perales Casa, Fidencio Samaniego Zamora and three others who escaped, when they were making a sale of heroin.

Alejandro Lara Garcia came running out of the house with 8 ounces of heroin which he was going to sell. A few blocks away, he was captured and he confessed that he received the drug from Florencio Garcia. He took the PJF agents to Garcia's home where they arrested the latter.

Later, Octavio Perales Casas died at the Reynosa jail due to a lung disease.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

DRUG DEALER ARRESTED MAKING SALE TO AMERICAN SOLDIER

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 7 May 77 p 4

[Article by A. Lamas]

[Text] According to information supplied to DIARIO DE NOGALES yesterday, the following persons were arrested by the Federal Judicial Police the day before yesterday in connection with a drug sale to an American soldier: Jesus Gradilla Cruz, Tomas Chaboya Castro, Baldemar Gradilla Juarez, Sergio Gradilla Juarez and Esperanza Solis Ortega..

Ernesto Avila Triana, assistant federal public ministry agent, told DIARIO the day before yesterday that the Federal Police under the command of Maj Alvaro Orozco Novelo, after a painstaking investigation, arrested Jesus Gradilla Cruz who had sold the hard drug to the soldier, Donald A. Bros-well.

When Gradilla Cruz was arrested, he admitted that he had a little more of the drug in his home, whereupon the agents went to his house which is located on Uruguay and 5 de Febrero Streets, near the "La Conga" bar.

When the agents broke into the above mentioned house, they found 11 grams of heroin and arrested the other four persons for investigation. As of yesterday, these individuals were still giving statements to the Federal Public Ministry agent.

According to completed investigations, the Gradillas had been drug traffickers for years, sending drugs abroad and selling them to addicts on both sides of the border. Because of this, the full force of the law will be applied to Jesus Gradilla Cruz, the principal chieftain, while the investigation will be broadened to cover other "big fish" who, along with the Gradillas, are supplying "shootup joints" in several sectors of the city.



The Gradillas arrested as drug traffickers. At right, the principal chieftain, Jesus Gradilla Cruz. The others are Tomas Chaboya Castro, Baldemar and Sergio Gradilla Juarez. These men were distributing heroin to visitors and shootup joints. A heavy blow delivered by federal agents under the command of Maj Alvaro Orozco Novelo. (Photo by AMPELIO)

8143
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

DRUG ADDICTION PROBLEM AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 27 Jun 77 p 4-A

[Editorial: Children Yes; Drugs No!]

[Text] The acute drug addiction problem among children, adolescents and youths must permanently and unequivocally be exposed to awaken parents' consciences. An important number of psychologists assert that any newspaper note or article on the subject does more harm than good. They insist that discussion produces new drug addicts because nonaddicts are seduced by their curiosity. Contrary to this thesis, we feel an inescapable duty to warn as frequently as possible against the inroads made by several drugs which are terrible, worldwide social scourges.

However much it is denied or blurred, truth will prevail over everything. A truth as important as the daily proliferation of drug addiction can only be concealed by stupidity or fear to resolutely undertake the solution of the problem.

Another indisputable fact is that the population explosion is stifling the planet. Every 24 hours, 250,000 babies are born. They increase the requirements for the necessities of life. Meanwhile, the essentials and determining factors such as food production decrease daily at an alarming rate.

In comparison to the population explosion, however Dantesque it is, drug addiction has even graver consequences because it frustrates and inexorably destroys living beings. It has become an authentic form of genocide, the imprint of which will be indelibly marked on future generations who arrive daily in hosts.

Due to the ambivalence of the apocalyptic birth-drug addiction problem, we must point out that to deal with the population explosion crisis is a thousand times preferable than to have a single one of our children afflicted with the lethal cancer represented by drug addiction. This causes irreversible harm while the population explosion is, after all, tolerable on the way to the total explosion.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

THE SOCIAL EVIL OF UNRESTRAINED DRUG ADDICTS

Addict Fined for Indecent Conduct

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Jun 77 p 4-B

[Text] Yesterday, a man taking drugs and annoying students at Colegio de Las Americas was arrested and taken to the preventive police headquarters. A large administrative fine was imposed on him.

Jose Moyeda Burciaga is the disgusting man who used Resistol [glue] and marihuana to get high and to annoy Colegio de Las Americas students.

In response to a telephone call, the police put an end to the orgy Moyeda Burciaga was planning to have by sniffing Resistol 5,000 and smoking marihuana.

He was immediately taken to preventive police headquarters where a large administrative fine was imposed so that he could obtain his release. He was given a strong warning not to annoy the students of the school.

Also, he was urged to go to a drug addict rehabilitation center so that he could rejoin society and avoid being tried after he commits a serious crime while drugged.

Indecent Exposure To Girl Students

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Jun 77 p 3-B

[Text] Day before yesterday, a drug addict who has been arrested three times for sniffing poliz fuerte [a chemical dye used for shoe polishing] and for indecent exposure in front of several minors was detained.

Jose Moyeda Burciaga, single, age 21, a laborer living at 103 Maclovia Herrera Pte is the brazen drug addict who while sniffing Resistol and poliz fuerte indecently exposed himself to girls who complained to their parents who immediately called the police.

This man is mentally deranged due to the drugs he takes. If he is not detained for an indefinite period or placed in a drug addict reformatory he will

continue to commit that disgusting crime in front of girls. The parents of families living in the Maclovia Herrera and Galeana Streets neighborhood request in EL DIARIO that this revolting man be indefinitely confined or placed in a drug addict rehabilitation center.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SNIFFER OF A CHEMICAL DYE USED FOR SHOE POLISHING ARRESTED

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 4 Jun 77 p 4-A

[Text] Yesterday, at the bank of Rio San Rodrigo [river] at Villa de Fuente, Coahuila, a man was arrested for the nth time for sniffing poliz fuerte [a chemical dye used for shoe polishing].

This youth, who is an addict, is not likely to be rehabilitated. He was captured while getting high on poliz fuerte at the bank of the river at Villa de Fuente. He resisted the police who patrolled there when they questioned him.

The man is Jose Castillo Chavez, age 20, unemployed, a resident of Villa de Fuente.



Jose Castillo Chavez. He was arrested for the nth time for sniffing poliz fuerte at the bank of the river at Villa de Fuente. He was turned over to the preventative police. (Foto Lombrana)

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MARIHUANA SEIZED AT A RANCH

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Jun 77 p 5-A

[Text] Ciudad Diaz Ordaz, Tamaulipas--by Manuel Mercado, correspondent--Drug trafficking received a serious setback yesterday morning when the PJE [State Judicial Police] seized at the ranch belonging to Euvelester Gutierrez Saenz, at present a Reynosa, Tamaulipas, traffic inspector and candidate for deputy from the Distrito de la Riberena, almost 1.5 tons of marihuana carefully guarded by Jose Luis Benavides. When the latter was arrested he said that the drug belonged to Oscar Gutierrez Rivas. Gutierrez Rivas escaped arrest but his capture is expected within hours.

Israel Pena Lucero, the chief of the PJE group detached here, reported this. He said that arduous investigations for several days led to the arrest yesterday of Jose Luis Benavides, age 26, who was guarding the drug which had arrived at the ranch at dawn on Wednesday.

During the interrogation of the presumed trafficker, it was disclosed that Enrique Romo rented the ranch from Gutierrez Saenz. Romo has not yet been captured by the police because at the time of the raid he was not there.

The marihuana was perfectly packed in 28 sacks to be shipped to the American market but the police action prevented the drug from being exported.

Benavides said that the marihuana belongs to Oscar Gutierrez Rivas, a resident of this city who is also a fugitive presumed to have escaped to the United States.

Pena Lucero said that after the drug was seized and Benavides arrested, the PJE were requested to take charge of the case.

After the Federal Judicial Police took over the case, the prisoner and the marihuana were transferred to Reynosa where the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office will complete the preliminary investigation which will be remanded to the Nuevo Laredo District Court judge to handle the case.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

HEROIN DEALER ARRESTED IN LOCAL HOTEL

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 13 May 77 p 4

[Text] Hermosillo, 12 May. A man was arrested in a downtown hotel in this capital by Federal Judicial Police Agents who found in his possession "a sample" of the 24 ounces of heroin for which he was trying to close a deal. Federal agents had been tailing him on the basis of information that he was a drug trafficker.

The prisoner answers to the name of Manuel Velasco Juarez, who claims his place of residence is in the city of Nogales.

When the agents thought the time was right, they arrested him and took him to the Federal Judicial Police Station for questioning.

The prisoner said that he was making a deal for 24 ounces of pure heroin and that the sale was to have been consummated in the hotel bar where he was arrested. His client never showed up.



Manuel Velasco Juarez. He was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police as he was about to make a heroin sale in Nogales, according to the police.

8143
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ABANDONED MARIHUANA CONFISCATED NEAR EL RIO BRAVO

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 10 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] Some 2,110 kilograms of marihuana were abandoned by several drug traffickers along the banks of the Rio Bravo when they were discovered by the Federal Judicial Police assigned to Ciudad Reynosa, Tamaulipas, according to information released yesterday by the coordinator of federal public ministry agencies, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez.

No arrests were made during this police action; therefore, the drug was destroyed.

Aaron Juarez Jimenez reported that on Thursday morning, the Federal Judicial Police had discovered a shipment of 110 kilos of marihuana along the Rio Bravo, 6 kilometers from Reynosa.

Part of the shipment was already loaded aboard several launches for export to the American side. The rest was hidden in a gorge.

According to this federal official, the drug traffickers were carrying out their loading operations during the night; however, when they were taken by surprise at dawn, they abandoned their plans to export the marihuana for fear that they would be seen and arrested by the authorities.

The drug was confiscated on Thursday and destroyed on Friday in the presence of civil, federal and military authorities.

Arrests in Matamoros

Juarez Jimenez also reported that on a ranch near Matamoros, Tamaulipas three alleged drug traffickers were arrested with 92 kilos of marihuana in their possession.

The three individuals were questioned closely with a view to their providing the names of the drug traffickers who had supplied and sold the drug to them.

MEXICO

HEROIN, OPIUM, MARIHUANA BURNED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Jun 77 p 8-A

[Text] Over 20 tons of marihuana, opium, heroin and cocaine were incinerated yesterday at kilometer 7 of the Morelia-Patzcuaro highway which were confiscated during the permanent campaign of the Federal Judicial Police in the state of Mochoacan.

The action was ordered by the attorney general, Oscar Flores, and was carried out in the presence of the representative of the Federal Public Ministry, the state governor, Carlos Torres Manzo, and other officials of that entity.

The narcotics were stored in the vaults of the district courts and Public Ministry offices: 20,520 kilos of marihuana; 18 kilos, 850 grams of opium; 500 grams of heroin; 5 of cocaine; 15 toxic pills; 12 kilos of marihuana seed and 3 of poppy seed.

At the same time Federal Judicial Police agents detained a truck with 865 kilograms of marihuana in packages; it was taken to the United States by Jose Luis Benavides Hernandez, who was arrested and from whom a large caliber piston was taken. The vehicle was intercepted near Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

In a place called El Claro, about 40 kilometers from Santa Ana, Sonora, judicial agents located a light aircraft, with an altered registration number, abandoned on a clandestine landing strip, and inside they found 400 kilos of marihuana in packages. Later it was learned that the aircraft was registered in the city of Phoenix, Arizona.

In Tijuana a gang of narcotics traffickers, composed of six individuals, was arrested and heroin and marihuana were confiscated from them.

First, Antonio Alvarez Sevilla, "El Loco," was discovered when he offered 20 grams of heroin. He revealed that the principal traffickers were in the Hotel Ejecutivo; they were later apprehended with 310 grams of heroin, a scale and 440 grams of marihuana.

Also captured was Bernabe Uribe Castro, "El Ingeniero," with 8 doses and 22 grams of heroin. He named his supplier as Lilia Leal Ramos, who was found and arrested along with Juan Manuel Toledo, Jesus Leal Cartagena and Bernardo Perez Hernandez.

In Reynosa, in a double blow against narcotics traffickers, 2 tons of marihuana were confiscated and four individuals captured who had planned to take the drug to the United States.

The judicial and rural police detained the occupants of a Ford station wagon with Texas license plates BZC-91: Antonio Perales Acosta and Raul Hernandez Alvarez, who were carrying 400 kilos of marihuana already packaged.

On a farm between Reynosa and Diaz Ordaz 22 of 27 sacks with marihuana were found, weighing 1.5 tons; it is not known where the other five sacks are.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MARIHUANA, TWO AUTOS, SEVEN TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 28 May 77 p 8-A

[Text] Ciudad Victoria, Tam--from our correspondent--At dawn today, drug trafficking had a setback when State Rural Police captured about 1 ton of marihuana on the Carretera Aldama-Soto la Marina which was being taken in two autos to Matamoros from where it was to be shipped to the United States.

Seven people who were transporting the grass, all of whom are from the State of Veracruz, were captured along with the vehicles. They were transferred to this city and are being investigated by the authorities.

Eugenio Quintero Garcia, the commander of the State Rural Police; Salvador Infante Garza, the Police Inspection and Traffic Department inspector, and four agents made the capture.

The autos were intercepted at the customs post on the Carretera Aldama-Soto La Marina, near the limits of the two municipalities.

The prisoners are: Efren Lopez, Hernan Mendez Cordova, Loreto and Pablo Len-dichi Cordova, Onesimo Cruz Cortes, Antonio Hernandez Cortes and Agustin Castaneda Torres.

The capture was made today at about 1200 hours when the two autos were passing the customs post. Since the attitude of the occupants aroused the suspicions of the rural police, they intercepted the autos.

The first auto was a 1976 Dodge Dart. The one with the larger load was a Veracruz license plates 91 XCU green car. The marihuana was in 42 packages of different sizes so they would fit in the trunk of the cars.

The Dodge Dart car, license plates XWU 245, carried only a small part of the load.

All the prisoners said they lived in Choapas, Veracruz, where they acquired the grass which they were going to deliver in Matamoros.

However, it is believed that this is not the first load they carried and that they had made this highway into a "corridor" for taking grass to the United States.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

NINE MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 28 May 77 p 4-A

[Text] In three different actions, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] with the help of the army captured nine presumed marihuana traffickers and more than 1 ton of marihuana was seized.

During the early morning hours at "El Caballo" checkpoint on the Carretera Internacional south of Hermosillo, the PJF agents under Commander Margarito Mendez Rico intercepted a Ford pickup truck with a camper, carrying five passengers in it. When the PJF agents told the people to get out so that the vehicle could be searched, they became nervous so a more careful check was made.

In the pickup truck, 336 packages of marihuana were found. The occupants of the 1968 Ford, frontier license plates 912-YGK, and the camper were arrested immediately.

The prisoners are: Jose Garcia Angulo who seems to own the drug; Ismael Ortiz Zamorano, Garcia's partner; Jose Alfredo Avila Patron, Rene Ramirez Montero and Margarito Ignacio Corral.

In a second action, Rogelio Lizarraga Ontiveros, Alfredo Rubio Salazar, Jose Eduardo Moreno Figueroa and Roberto Castelum Quintero were arrested.

They were captured at Magdalena with 1 ton of marihuana.

Finally, 95 kms south of Hermosillo, a 1976 Datsun auto without license plates was found abandoned with 50 kgs of marihuana.



Jose Garcia Angulo, Ismael Ortiz Zamorano, Alfredo Rubio, Roberto Gastelum, Rogelio Lizarraga and Jose Eduardo Moreno were captured by the Federal Judicial Police when they were taking a large load of marihuana to the frontier.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

SMUGGLERS' AIRPLANE SEIZED--by Antonio Lamas--Yesterday, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] of Agua Prieta upset the drug traffickers by seizing a powerful light plane used to carry marihuana to the United States. Ernesto Avila Triana, the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, told DIARIO DE NOGALES yesterday that the PJF agents under Commander Alvaro Orozco Novelo had arrested a man in connection with the plane which had been seized with traces of marihuana. He added that the action was taken after American authorities made a complaint. The light plane had crossed the frontier and, while in flight, dropped a large load of marihuana which was seized by Arizona narcotics agents. The Stationer II light plane, registration No N7280N, was found abandoned at the Agua Prieta airport. Alfredo Vazquez Lopez was arrested for investigation as an accomplice of the owner. The plane is now at the disposal of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office in this city's airport under police guard. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 28 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

IMPRISONMENT FOR POSSESSION OF MARIHUANA--Yesterday, during the penal proceedings against Juan Antonio Rodriguez Juantos in the Coahuila District Court, the order of imprisonment for possession of marihuana was confirmed. He was exonerated of the charges of supplying marihuana. Xavier Luevano Mesta, head of the Coahuila District Penal Board made this report to EL DIARIO. He added that the previous month Juan Antonio Rodriguez Juantos was arrested and turned over to the federal authorities. At the end of the 72-hour constitutional limit after he made his preparatory declaration, he and his codefendant Ramiro Gutierrez Torres received the order of imprisonment of the first and of release of thesecond. Rodriguez Juantos was issued an order of imprisonment for illicit possession and supplying of marihuana. Gutierrez Torres, classified as a drug addict, was set free [words missing] The Eighth Circuit Unitary Court Torreon [confirmed] the decision by Jose Becerra Santiago, the Coahuila District Court judge. The Eighth Circuit Unitary Court acquitted Rodriguez Juantos of supplying marihuana but confirmed the order of his imprisonment. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 4 Jun 77 p 3-A] 8923

DRUGGIST ARRESTED ON HEROIN CHARGES--In Altar, a druggist and his helper were arrested by the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] with 100 grams of heroin and a small dose of cocaine. The PJF agents under Commander Margarito Mendez Rico

arrested Jesus Manuel Duran Cordova and Jose Canez Portillo. The first is the owner of "El Chapo" drug store in Altar where the PJF agents seized the drugs. The heroin was in a glass bottle and the cocaine was wrapped in paper. Two capsules evidently containing the same powder were also found.
[Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 27 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

FOUR MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS IMPRISONED--Yesterday, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, acting Third District Court judge during the absence of Judge Alejo Sierra Gomez, issued orders of imprisonment against four traffickers charged with crimes against public health under several categories. The accused are driver and farmer Manuel Diaz Caballero, age 32; driver Cornelio Guzman Preciado, age 21; Adolfo Rios Moreno, age 34; and laborer Jose Garza Trevino, age 34. These men had organized a gang of marihuana traffickers. The Federal Judicial Police agents captured them with about 1 ton of marihuana which they were taking in two vehicles and which they were in the act of selling. The buyers escaped but these four men were arrested. They confessed to the prosecuting attorney that they acquired the marihuana in Colima and were taking it to Miguel Aleman when they were caught in the act. They were charged with possessing and transporting marihuana. Roberto P. Medina, the defense attorney of the four drug traffickers, presented yesterday briefs on extenuating circumstances for some of them. On Monday, it will be decided whether or not they will be released on bail. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 5 Jun 77 p 8-B] 8923

AUTHORITIES ACCUSED OF ACCEPTING BRIBES--Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila--31 May 77--from the correspondent--There is no authority to restrain drug distribution in this frontier port, which is preferred by foreigners. After obtaining drugs and while transporting them to the United States, they are arrested at the International Bridge by the Del Rio, Texas police authorities. Investigations by the latter authorities disclose that marihuana was bought in this city of Acuna from distributors in the red-light district. "Jesse" Jesus Gonzalez is generally known as the notorious number one trafficker. He seems to be distributing his profits by quotas to both municipal and federal police authorities. For this reason, he goes on supplying poison to the addicts without disturbances or interruptions. In return for large payments, other suppliers in this city receive protection from police authorities who remain silent and pretend to ignore what is going on. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Jun 77 p 8-A] 8923

REDUCTION OF DRUG TRAFFIC IN MEXICO--Gen Felix Galvan Lopez, secretary of national defense, said today that drug trafficking has been reduced by 80 percent as a result of the success of the last 6 months which had never before been equalled by Mexican authorities. The demand for marihuana and cocaine in the United States is larger than the supply. After making an agreement with President Jose Lopez Portillo, the general said during a press conference at the Palacio Nacional that Operation Condor was a definite success. It was the best campaign in the history of the struggle against drug trafficking. Galvan said that during the 6 months that he has been secretary of national

defense, authorities have destroyed 4,433 hectares of poppy fields and 1,950 hectares of marihuana fields. They seized 134 kgs of poppy seeds, 66,070 kgs of opium, 3,623,000 kgs of marihuana seed, 425 kgs of packed and loose marihuana, 1,224 toxic tablets and 2 kgs of peyote. Also, 197,000 kgs of poppy seeds, 3,732,000 kgs of marihuana seeds and 562,000 amphetamine pills were incinerated. He said these were the accomplishments during Operation Condor. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Jun 77 p 1-A] 8923

TWO DRUG TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--David Calderon Villegas' judicial status became more complicated because now, instead of having to serve 7 years imprisonment he must serve 11 years. The Federal Judicial Police arrested Calderon and Antonio Morales who were engaged in heroin, opium, marihuana and other drug trafficking. The Federal Judicial Police captured them with 4 kgs of heroin in their possession. Judge Luis Garcia Romero sentenced David and his codefendant Antonio Morales to 7 years imprisonment each and fined each of them 2,800 pesos. Alejo Sierra Gomez, the Third District Court judge, also sentenced David Calderon to 4 years imprisonment and fined him 5,000 pesos for another crime against public health since two autos containing traces of marihuana were found at his residence. He will begin to serve this second sentence after serving the 7 years imprisonment imposed in the sentence by the Second District Court judge. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Jun 77 p 6-B] 8923

MERCHANTS PROMOTE GLUE SNIFFING BY MINORS--Unscrupulous merchants contribute to minors' illegally sniffing synthetic glue by facilitating the sale of the product without thought of the consequences of their doing this. Dr Mario Martinez Gonzalez, the head of the Psychology Department of the Sistema para el Desarrollo Integral de la Familia said, "Some minors have reported on the activities of merchants who sell toxic inhalants. They even use adults to promote glue sniffing among youths." As to the identification of some of these merchants, Dr Martinez Gonzalez said, "Some minors have given us information on establishments selling Resistol 5000 which is used by youths as drugs. Opportunely, we will publish reports fully identifying the supply centers of toxic products." Dr Martinez Gonzalez explained that efforts are being made to arrest minors to reduce the potential number of juvenile delinquents, especially as to their becoming drug addicts. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 May 77 p 1-B] 8923

CRASH OF PLANE WITH MARIHUANA--The PJF [Federal Judicial Police] are investigating the case of a light plane which crashed night before last at Laguna Madre. The pilot is believed to have set the plane on fire to destroy all evidence of the marihuana it evidently was carrying, since traces of marihuana were found in the remains of the plane. Jorge Guadalupe Conde, the PJF group chief in this city said that the PJF will thoroughly investigate the case. He will require Daniel Charles De Green, the pilot of the plane, to make a declaration as soon as possible. The PJF have reports that several members of the Navy, on the way to Carvajal, at Laguna Madre, arrested American

pilot Daniel Charles de Green, the pilot of the Cesna light plane, registration No N-21248 which crashed there. After the accident, the pilot set the plane on fire to destroy all evidence of the cargo it was carrying. According to those same reports, there evidently was a load of marihuana, the amount of which is unknown because it has not been found. Either the marihuana was burned with the plane or the foreign pilot threw it into Laguna Madre just before the plane crashed. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 3 Jun 77 p 7-A] 8923

MARIHUANA REMANDED TO FEDERAL AUTHORITIES--Yesterday, the Municipal Police remanded to Fernando Edgardo Velazquez, the federal prosecuting attorney, 1 ton of marihuana captured night before last in 5 sacks and 3 packages found in a Guayin light truck abandoned at the corner of Calle Saturno and Calle Justo Sierra in the Alianza section. This was done before the prosecuting attorney requested it. Martinez, the first commander in charge of police inspection, remanded the marihuana together with a report on how it was found and the circumstances of the case. The marihuana and the Guayin light truck were turned over to the federal prosecuting attorney at about 1000 hours together with a report on the matter. The first commander in charge of inspection said, "We have no reason to retain for even a second longer a case the investigation of which concerns the federal prosecuting attorney. We did our part. If at any time, we fortunately arrest any person involved with the marihuana which we found, we would also turn him over to Fernando Velazquez, the federal prosecuting attorney, so that he may take the proper legal measures. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 23 May 77 p 8-A] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKERS' ACCOMPLICE RELEASED ON BAIL--Some days ago, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents arrested Jose Garza Trevino and three drug traffickers. Yesterday afternoon Garza Trevino posted a large bail set by the Third District Court and was released from jail. Jose Garza was indicted for the crime of concealment since he was the liaison between the drug traffickers Manuel Diaz Caballero and Cornelio Guzman Preciado and the Texan trafficker Alfonso Rios Moreno of Alice, Texas. The criminals against public health were captured in Guardados de Abajo with 1350 kgs of marihuana which they had brought from Tecoman, Colima, in two trips. In Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, the two drug traffickers picked up Garza Trevino so that he should serve as liaison between them and the American buyers, one of whom was Rios Moreno. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 5 Jun 77 p 3-B] 8923

TWO AMERICANS WITH HEROIN--In the parking lot of the dive "La Conga" on Calle 5 de Febrero, two men who seem to be Americans were arrested by the police because their conduct seemed suspicious. Drugs are rumored to have been sold to them at the dive. When the police approached them, the Americans seemed to be nervous so the police searched them and their auto. In the front seat they found a hypodermic syringe and in the glove compartment, two spoons with residues of a coffee colored drug, evidently heroin, and a preservative with heroin powder. At police headquarters, the prisoners said they are Stephen Vincent Wilkies and Hay A. Grane. They are being held in the municipal jail at the disposal of the prosecuting attorney for investigation as to where they obtained the drugs in their possession when arrested. They seem to be heroin addicts. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 31 May 77 pp 3-A, 4-A] 8923

MANHUNT FOR A TRAFFICKER--The PJF [Federal Judicial Police] are conducting a manhunt for Roberto Rodriguez Mendez, alias "El Beto". He is said to have carried out in this city an infinite number of drug trafficking operations, especially of marihuana and heroin. Yesterday, this became known at the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office where several persons made statements on this matter. PJF agents under Carlos A. Zermenio detained the manager of the Santa Elena ranch in the municipality of Guerrero, Coahuila, belonging to Beto Rodriguez. The latter is charged with being the main drug trafficker at this frontier. EL DIARIO received unofficial reports that at this ranch were made all operations in drugs shipped to the United States. Antonio Quezada, manager of Santa Elena ranch, was arrested. EL DIARIO was informed that he gave the PJF important leads on the drug traffic. [Excerpts] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Jun 77 p 3-A] 8923

POSSESSOR OF COCAINE IMPRISONED--Yesterday, EL DIARIO was informed that the Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal at Torreon, Coahuila, confirmed the Coahuila District Court judge's order of imprisonment issued against Simon de Luna C. for a crime against public health under the category of possession of cocaine. Also, the judicial authority ratified an order for the release for lack of sufficient evidence of Amador Juarez Esquivel. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Jun 77 p 3-A] 8923

PREVENTION OF DRUG ADDICTION--Drug addiction is a problem beyond the control of police and health authorities. The prevention of drug addiction is the responsibility of parents and teachers. If a child or an adolescent takes the wrong road in life, this is due to a great extent to his training. A well-qualified psychoanalyst of the Centro de Salud staff expressed this opinion. He added that the repressive means used up to now by society against drug addiction are inadequate and inappropriate. If the home and the school provided society with educational structures, drug addiction would become, as in other nations, just something young people experiment with. It would not be a danger against defenseless youths which has become a reality. The steps taken by the police are not effective. The police of the type in this city only submerge the youth in confusion, especially when the youth is placed among hardened drug addicts. The detention and confinement in jail of a minor is censurable. The legal codes decree that, in spite of whatever a minor may do, he should not be put into a jail together with all types of adult criminals. He said that a young addict can be reformed from that wretched life

if somebody with patience and love for humanity would surround him with help and attentions. To do this, parents and teachers must change their concepts of children. If possible, they should chat with them and share their games. Lack of communication is a factor leading to a youth's feeling alone and neglected. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 Jun 77 p 8-A] 8923

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Jose Becerra Santiago, the District Court judge, found Raul Molina Perez guilty of possessing and trafficking marihuana. He sentenced Molina Perez to 4 years imprisonment and fined him 3,000 pesos. [Excerpt] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Jun 77 p 8-A] 8923

DRUGS IN GIFT SHOPS--by Antonio Rojas--Yesterday, DIARIO DE NOGALES was informed that some gift shops in the center of this city are shameless drug markets. The names were disclosed of five fully identified persons in business circles linked with known drug traffickers. Yesterday noon, this reporter investigated three shops where several drugs are sold. They receive loads of drugs, evading the police net. The drugs are picked up in the shops by buyers who pass as transient tourists or customers. The main traffickers using this method of operation are identified by surnames such as "Los Trujillo", Vazquez, Rodriguez and so forth. They bring and sell in their shops large amounts of heroin and cocaine. They do not take drugs to the United States. Two merchants of this type were charged as linked with illicit activities. These activities produce large profits. Since these violators of the law, including one who has served terms in the United States, have been clearly identified, it is surprising that the majority of the authorities do not act. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 17 Jun 77 p 4-A] 8923

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SET FREE--Yesterday, two suspected drug traffickers who were captured with a large load of marihuana in their possession were set free after the Fourth Circuit Unitary Tribunal of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, reversed the verdict of guilty of a crime against public health by the Third District Court judge. Abraham Reyes Penaloza and Mercedes Puente Espinosa had been sentenced respectively to 6 years 6 months and 8 years 6 months imprisonment. Both had been confined in the local jail since 29 July 1976. In the jail office, it was reported that the Federal Judicial Police had captured these two persons while they were transporting more than 1 ton of marihuana. Another Gangster Released on Bail. Also, yesterday, Francisco Rodriguez Reyes was released on bail. Since 20 March 1977, he was held at La Loma jail for a crime against public health. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 4-B] 8923

TOXIC PILLS ARREST--The Ortegon brothers, who have been a problem to the police, were placed behind bars yesterday when they were arrested with 32 toxic pills. Hector and Juan Ortegon, along with Carlos Sandoval, were arrested on Purisima and Madero Streets when they attempted to escape from the police officers who had responded to a complaint turned in by the parents of the Ortegones. As it developed, these men had 32 Opadilon pills in their possession. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 6 May 77 p 3-B] 8143

TRAFFICKERS BUSTED IN MAZATLAN--Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 14 Jun. The Federal Judicial Police struck another harsh blow against drug trafficking, in collaboration with the Sinaloa police, by arresting a ring of national and international drug traffickers in this city. The arrested drug traffickers are: Baldomero Nava Olivarría, who served as the ringleader; Jose Guadalupe Lopez Coronado; Tomas Arroyo Arredondo; and Raymundo Talamares, alias "El Pirey." The lead which resulted in the arrest of this ring was nothing more than a matter of luck. When the Judicial Police of Jalisco attempted to clarify the death in this city of Francisco Javier Guzman Aguilera on 26 April 1977, they learned that Guzman Aguilera, a native of Acaponeta, had been persuaded by Nava Olivarría to take a shipment to Guadalajara.

[Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 15 Jun 77 p 8-A] 8143

TRAFFICKERS SHAKE DOWN HOTEL OWNERS--Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 18 Jun. The municipal chief of police, Antonio Camarena Vega, today requested the help of the State Judicial Police to capture members of a ring of extortionists who surprise owners of hotels and restaurants on the pretext of looking for drugs on their premises. Beforehand, they bring sacks of marihuana into these business sites and then claim that they "found the drug in the hotel rooms." Camarena Vega reported that he suspects "former members of the judicial police and active members of the municipal police who are perfectly acquainted with the movements of drug traffickers and are, therefore, easy to identify." When the members of the ring, which has been in operation several months, "find" marihuana in a hotel or restaurant, they demand sums of money from the proprietors ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 pesos for "hush-money." The police chief said that their modus operandi is by telephone or personal contact and that they frequently visit the owners of these businesses under the guise of special police agents.

[Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Jun 77 p 27-A] 8143

FOUR TRAFFICKING RINGS BUSTED--The Federal Judicial Police struck another blow against drug trafficking with the destruction of several rings, the arrest of 19 traffickers, the confiscation of 1,611 kilograms of marihuana, 550 grams of heroin, 20,000 toxic pills (amphetamines), as well as automobiles, arms and money. The principal police action took place in the city of Reynosa, Tamaulipas where a seven-member ring was arrested. They had in their possession 1 ton, 374 kilos of marihuana, three automobiles for the transport of the drug, two rifles and nearly \$10,000. Another dismantled ring was operating in the night-spots of Tijuana, Baja California and consisted of six individuals who had 20,000 amphetamines. In Tecate, Baja California, the judicial police arrested another ring of five drug traffickers from whom they confiscated 237 kilograms of packaged marihuana ready for sale. Finally, in the town of Magdalena, Sonora, three drug traffickers were arrested as they were leaving that locality in an automobile in which they were carrying 550 grams of heroin. Arrested while traveling to the city of Hermosillo were Jose Jorge Ortega, Ismael Moreno Valdez and Joaquin Medina Contreras. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 11 Jun 77 p 8-A] 8143

DRUG TRAFFICKING IN PENITENTIARY--Cuernavaca, Morelos, 12 Jun. Jesus Octavio Solis Meraz, warden of the State Penitentiary, admitted today that drug use and

trafficking inside the prison are alarming. He added that the problem is impossible to hide; however, action is already being taken to stop the introduction of drugs into the Social Rehabilitation Center. Solis Meraz stated, however, that the Morelos penitentiary is considered to be one of the most advanced rehabilitation centers in the country which has a kindergarten, primary and secondary schools, several sports teams, and will soon have a preparatory school. He reported that the number of homosexuals is minimal and that sick prisoners had been separated from the others. He stated that the criminal population, which fluctuates between 450 and 500 individuals, has permanent work in the shops of the institution and gave assurances that each inmate receives adequate and ongoing medical and psychiatric attention. "It is untrue that harsh punishment is meted out here," the warden said. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Jun 77 p 26-A] 8143

SINALOA DRUG RING BUST--Culiacan, Sinaloa, 10 Jun. The Federal Judicial Police confiscated 387 costales [Translator's note: The 'costal' is simply a large bag/sack. We cannot equate it with a specific weight or volume.] of marihuana worth 60 million pesos and arrested four drug traffickers who were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent of this city. The arrest of the drug traffickers took place in the town of El Paredon, municipality of Elota. They include: Alfredo Castro Zamora, Jose Arenas Rodriguez and the brothers Gaspar and Juan Rocha Chiquete, who were riding in a truck with part of the confiscated marihuana. They admitted that they had stored part of the drug in this town since October 1976. The Rocha Chiquete brothers confessed that they had engaged in transporting marihuana to the United States since 1974 and that they had delivered the marihuana in package form. In addition to the marihuana, they also transported toxic pills and raw opium. They reported that they had hidden other costales of marihuana on the Ensenada ranch, which is the property of the municipality of Elota. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Jun 77 p 26-A] 8143

MARIHUANA, WEAPONS SEIZED--Reynosa, Tamaulipas, 15 Jun. Seven members of an international drug trafficking ring, a shipment of 1.5 tons of marihuana worth 4 million pesos on the black market, four vehicles and high-powered weapons were seized by army troops in a surprise strike at the drug traffic. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 16 Jun 77 p 8-A] 8143

POLICE, TRAFFICKERS IN SHOOTOUT--During a shootout between drug traffickers and Federal Judicial Police agents assigned to Guasave, Sinaloa, in which high-powered weapons were used--machine guns and M-1 rifles--two criminals and one federal agent were killed and others were wounded. The shootout took place near Los Mochis and lasted 10 minutes. The agents had gone to that area to check out reports that drug deals were being made there. When they reached the site, they were greeted with bursts of fire from machine guns and M-1 rifles. An agent named Santana was killed, and another agent named Fonseca was seriously wounded. The federal agents repelled the attack, killing the brother of one of the country's principal drug traffickers, Jesus Caro Beltran, alias El Culiche Gilberto, in whose clothing the police found 250,000 pesos, the proceeds of cocaine sale which he had made moments earlier. The shootout caused great alarm among the inhabitants. Another dead man who was accompanying the

brother of El Culiche has not yet been identified; however, it is believed that he was the lieutenant of Jesus Caro Beltran. Maj Jaime Alcala, who directed the operation, reported that two federal agents had been killed and three others seriously wounded in this same area during the last 30 days. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Jun 77 p 32-A] 8143

MARIHUANA SEIZED IN THREE STATES--Federal Judicial Police agents assigned to Sinaloa, Oaxaca and Baja California confiscated 18 tons of marihuana worth 36 million pesos, closed a marihuana packaging center and a clandestine laboratory in which heroin was being processed and arrested 16 persons on charges of crimes against public health. The Sinaloa federal police located a marihuana packaging center in the western Sierra Madre, 5 kilometers from the town of Soyatita, municipality of Badiraguato. The police confiscated 15 tons of packaged and bagged marihuana; two presses; one hydraulic press; and a scales. Two kilometers from Soyatita, in an abandoned house, the federal agents discovered a clandestine laboratory where they found traces of heroin and 7 kilos of processed opium. The agents learned that Jose Valentin Acosta Libarria, Gil Lopez Perez and Pablo Niebla Serrano were using this house to process the heroin. Hours later, these men were arrested in the town of Soyatita. In Oaxaca, Oaxaca, the Federal Judicial Police seized 3 tons of packaged marihuana, 2 kilos of marihuana seed, a Ford automobile and a Datsun pickup truck, which were used to transport the drug. The following persons were arrested: Eustaquio Miguel Gomez, Timoteo Dominguez Migueles, Faustino Ruiz, Santiago Miguel Carrasco Toledo, Jorge Hernandez Santiago, Rafael Mateos Hernandez, Zenon Nunez, Meliton Rodriguez, Arnulfo Sanchez, Emiliano Miguel and Jaime Lopez Lopez. The prisoners were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent on charges of drug trafficking. Finally, in Tijuana, Baja California, Marcos Alonso Romero Romero was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police as he attempted to cross the United States border with a shipment of 1,400,000 toxic pills. He said that he had obtained the pills in Tijuana. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Jun 77 p 32-A] 8143

DRIVER KILLED FOR RIPOFF--Tepic, Nayarit, 11 Jun. Jalisco Judicial Police agents arrested four drug traffickers last night in Tecuala as they were transporting 200 kilograms of pressed marihuana in a stake body truck. The driver, Francisco Gonzalez Aguiar noted that he was missing six sacks of the shipment when he arrived in the capital of Jalisco and reported this to the owners of the drug, J. Guadalupe Lopez Coronado, Ubaldo Nava Oliverria, Raimundo Mortejo and Tomas Arroyo Rendon who demanded that the driver hand over the marihuana. When the traffickers received no reply, they kidnapped the driver and took him to an isolated location at the Ameca crossroads on the International Highway where they strangled him to death with a rope. An eyewitness reported them to the Jalisco police, whereupon an agent went to Tecuala where he arrested four traffickers and took them to Guadalajara for interrogation. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Jun 77 p 28-A] 8143

MARIHUANA, WEAPONS, VEHICLES SEIZED--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 7 Jun. The State Judicial Police today arrested two marihuana cultivators and three intermediaries in charge of selling it on the Aguacate Ranch, municipality of Tihuano. Weapons and vehicles used in transporting the drug were confiscated, as well as 5 tons of the substance. This was reported today by Agustin Peniche Alvarez, a representative of the Public Ministry, which is coordinating the campaign against narcotics traffic. Under arrest are the brothers Manuel and Jose Ruelas Gutierrez, cultivators of the weed, and Alfredo Lagos Majia, Juan Rodriguez, Adan Valencia Zepeda, the intermediaries. The latter were found with 5 tons of the drug. Adan Valencia Zepeda, chief of the gang, said that they were going to transport the marihuana to the border to sell it to some Americans who were going to pay them \$1,000 a ton. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Jun 77 p 31-A] 9015

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS IN OAXACA--Oaxaca, 31 May. The Federal Judicial Police today captured four youths in the rooms of the La Venta Bungalows in this city who were about to engage in a marihuana transaction. The police chief, Jaime Alcala, said that he learned last night that a "high personage of Oaxaca," was to go to these bungalows to buy the drug, and he immediately went there. Under arrest are Enrique Rafael Esperon, Roberto Alfonso Lopez Soto, Gregorio Escamilla Leon and Leonel Villanueva Urbina, from whom 100 kilos of concentrated marihuana was confiscated "which has a high value on the black market," according to the police chief. He reported that the marihuana was contained in 1,103 tablets, and he said that the equivalent amount in marihuana leaf was 12 tons and that each kilo of leaf was worth 53,000 pesos on the black market. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 1 Jun 77 p 34-A] 9015

HEROIN, WEAPONS IN TIJUANA--Tijuana, North Baja California, 2 Jun. The Federal Judicial Police captured three narcotics traffickers today and confiscated high-powered weapons with telescopic sights, machine guns and 100 grams of cocaine. The arrests were made in a house on Guadalajara Avenue in the Jalisco section of this city. One of the traffickers succeeded in escaping with 8 kilos of heroin because when the police arrived at the place, a photographer entered also and distracted the police, and one of the leaders of the traffickers took advantage of this and fled with the heroin. Under arrest are: Salome Sarabia Fernandez, 52; Carmelo Macedo Curiel, 56; and Miguel Hernandez Cerda, 46, who was the lieutenant of Leobardo Garcia, alias "El Grande," who is a prisoner in the state penitentiary for crimes against health. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Jun 77 p 29-A] 9015

TURNKEYS AID TRAFFICKER'S ESCAPE--The chief guard of the Coyoacan Prison, Enrique Garduno, and the turnkeys, Pablo Salazar Villa and Antonio Velazquez, were brought before the Department of Justice for alleged complicity in the escape of Leopoldo Velazquez Munoz, who fled last Sunday. In determining presumed responsibility, the former chief guard was named since the former turnkey, Salazar Villa, continued to include the prisoner in the roll call, because when the roll was called and the name of the fugitive was read, the guard answered "present," so that his absence would

not be noticed; and finally the former turnkey, Antonio Velazquez, because he was manning the prison tower when the escape occurred. Velazquez was serving a sentence for a crime against health involving marihuana trafficking, and within the prison he had observed very good conduct, until last Sunday, when he escaped by way of the roof of one of the prison shops. The chief guard and the two turnkeys who were arrested said that they were innocent and that they had had no part in the escape of the narcotics trafficker. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Jun 77 p 31-A] 9015

OPIUM, MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS--The Federal Judicial Police apprehended 10 narcotics traffickers and confiscated 2 kilograms of opium gum and 619 kilos of marihuana in four different actions. In the most important one they arrested four traffickers on their way to the port of Acapulco with the 2 kilos of opium and 25 of marihuana, which they were going to sell there. The arrest took place in the village of Tuquita Norte, Guerrero. The criminals are Magdaleno Manzanares Covarrubias, Raul Manzanares de la Cruz, Mario Rivera Soberon and Antonio Villanueva Merlin. In Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, they apprehended two narcotics traffickers who were in an automobile carrying 300 kilos of marihuana, which they were going to sell there. Under arrest are Ricardo Espinosa Imperial and Guilebardo Campa Garcia. In the city of Morelos, on the Zacatecas-Fresnillo road, the agents intercepted a car in which Gerardo Guzman Jasso and Donato Martinez Lopez were carrying 194 kilos of marihuana. In Gomez Palacio, Durango, Celerino Francisco Molina and Emeterio Flores Soto were apprehended transporting several kilos of marihuana in a station wagon. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 8 Jun 77 p 8-A] 9015

CSO: 5300

URUGUAY

DOCTORS DISCUSS PATTERNS OF DRUG USE IN COUNTRY

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 19 Jun 77 pp 6, 11

[Text] Drug addiction has become one of the central problems of the modern world, particularly in those regions of the earth which have a high economic growth rate that is reflected in broad social and cultural prosperity. Drug use--with its natural psychological and physiological sequelae among its "habitues"--is clearly increasing, especially among young people and even in older age groups. Recent statistics prepared in the United States reveal that half of the enrolled students in the 50 states of the union are smoking marihuana on a daily basis. What will happen to them in the future? This is the question posed by psychiatrists, sociologists and educators, concerned over this dramatic situation. A number of hypotheses have been advanced; however, in general there is agreement in indicating that prolonged maladjustments in artificially structured personalities can become a generalized neurosis or psychosis.

Educational Action Bringing Results

Many measures have been adopted at the various state levels and in the sector of multinational organizations which have permitted the detecting of rings of traffickers--efficiently dismantled--and abandonment of the drug habit by millions, through planned educational campaigns which show the people the serious consequences of taking drugs. In our country, the "Dr Joaquin de Salterain" Mental Health and Psychological Research Institute, which is directed by Dr Carlos Chans Caviglia--a member of the World Mental Health Federation--is doing arduous counseling and treatment in selected cases, through the combined action of psychologists, doctors, educators, social workers and laboratory therapists. "The work is complex and the strategy employed varies in each case handled," EL PAIS was told by the eminent psychiatrist who is presently president of the Uruguayan Red Cross.

Which Drugs Are Most Common in Uruguay?

Questioned about the drugs most frequently used in our country, Dr Chans stated that there is great variety but that "marihuana and amphetamines are in first place." He offered the clarification that barbiturates--prescribed for medical purposes--in many cases generate a dependency in the individual when taken in overdosages for prolonged periods. His subsequent actions are based on a totally artificial "pattern of conduct."

It is not known what proportions the phenomenon of drug addiction has assumed in Uruguay. Only one report has been put together from the results of very empirical analyses which cover restricted sectors of our society. Psychologist Julia de Castro Chaves was consulted by EL PAIS and stated that "90 percent of the inmates have used drugs." She also said that among young people the percentages are really high but it is difficult to calculate the real figures. "Today's child, if he is sensitive, sees himself confronted by realities which often overwhelm him. He has no frame of reference of an ethical character to support him, so he seeks drugs as a compensating and even an escape mechanism."

Does the Deterioration of the Family Lead to Drug Use?

For his part, Dr Chans Caviglia declared that "the deterioration of the family institution is at the heart of the matter and that on the basis of his own experiences 60 percent of the children who resort to this stabilizing outlet are overprotected youths whose parents did not give them gradual freedom of action which would have allowed them personal enrichment with a view to their successfully facing increasing responsibilities." He underscored the importance of strengthening the bonds within these basic nucleuses of the community and announced that this problem will be discussed in the month of August at a World Congress which will be held in Vancouver (Canada).

"A review of the present methods of fighting drugs and alcoholism is also going to be conducted in the local area," he commented. "We will have a conference in Rivera at the level of the Red Cross of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, where we will place on the table this dramatic reality which urgently needs changing," emphasized the prestigious doctor.

What Is Marihuana?

Marihuana is a hallucinogen which is used in medicine as an ointment, liniment or corn remover. It is obtained from the upper part of the flowers of cannabis sativa and indica plants. Its most popular form of administration is the cigarette, although it can also--in rare instances--be ingested or inhaled. In the jargon of drug addicts, it has been given various names, such as "manteca," "herba," "haxix," "picon," "pasto," and "pito," among others. The symptoms of its use are varied, including: excitability, hallucinations, increased appetite, dry mouth, dilation of the pupils, nausea and vomiting, euphoria, abrupt changes in mood, acceleration of the pulse and an increase in arterial pressure.

Do Amphetamines Only Cause Weight Loss?

However, the drug most familiar to our students and obese persons who wish to lose weight are amphetamines, known as "speed" or "up" which are stimulants which lower weight and invigorate a person's mental and physical level. Doctors prescribe them as antidepressants or for weight loss. They are sold as capsules or bitter, odorless tablets. The consequences of their

use can be summarized in the following symptomology: excitability, restlessness, fears, pronunciation difficulties, rapid speech, sweating, dry mouth and lips, bad breath, dilation of the pupils, burning in the nose, accelerated pulse and increase in arterial pressure, hallucinations and psychosis.

What Can Barbiturates Produce?

What happens when one takes too many barbituric capsules? Congestion in the lungs and paralysis of the respiratory centers. The next step is death. The history of this century records incidents of this kind which happened to famous stars such as Marilyn Monroe or Dorothy Kilgallen, the TV panelist, to give only two examples. These psychotropic drugs without reaching these extremes can cause deterioration of a person's psychosomatic health when they are not controlled by a competent doctor and the patient moves capriciously into an overdose. The latent dangers are hepatitis (three out of four drug addicts suffer from it) and other important organic maladjustments.

At the present time in our country, combined action by the police services--in the repression phase--and the Institute headed by Dr Chans Caviglia (which is located at 1368 Maldonado Street) among other institutions which are functioning in the field of prevention and reeducation of drug addicts permit a glimpse of a future without complications on the national scene which will replace the raw reality prevalent throughout the world in which drugs lie in wait everywhere.

8143
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

MILLION DOLLAR MARIHUANA RING CAPTURED

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 15 Jun 77 p 8

[Article by Pedro Alvarez]

[Text] Barquisimeto, 14 Jun. Four persons alleged to be drug traffickers of a powerful ring were captured by uniformed police squads when they raided a house located on 13 and 14 Streets in this city.

The prisoners were identified as Modesto Perdomo, age 37, with 19 arrests; Carlos Alberto Rodriguez, 19, a resident of the 23 de Enero barrio (Cruz Blanca); Carlos Julio Rodriguez, 22, a Colombian and resident of Cujicito de Maracaibo barrio; and Martin Emilio Polanco, 53, a resident of Terepaima barrio, also in Maracaibo.

According to police information supplied by Lt Col Alirio Miguel Cabrera and Capt Victor Rondon Montero, the police agents confiscated 40 pounds of marihuana and hallucinogenic pills (mandras).

According to these officials, the ring was operating in the states of the central western region and was connected with international traffickers located in Colombia and the capital of Zulia.

Recently, they had obtained more than 1 million bolivares through drug trafficking.

The arrests were made after broad investigations conducted by the detectives subdivision of Police Headquarters in this federal state. They determined the "modus operandi" of the ring beforehand, the hours of greatest activity in drug sales and the place where the bulk of "the merchandise" was hidden.

During the raid, the police found 40 kilos of marihuana, 105 bags which are said to have sold for 15 bolivares each.

The marihuana was hidden in cake form, placed in a large can and buried in the floor.

The police also found several objects of doubtful origin.

According to his own admission, Carlos Julio Rodriguez was the ring's contact between Colombia and Venezuela, while Perdomo was the contact between Maracaibo and Barquisimeto.

From both men, the police confiscated an automobile with several well-camouflaged compartments used to transport marihuana through the checkpoints without being discovered.

8143
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

THREE MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SEIZED IN OPERATION 'DRUGS 77'

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 16 Jun 77 p 34

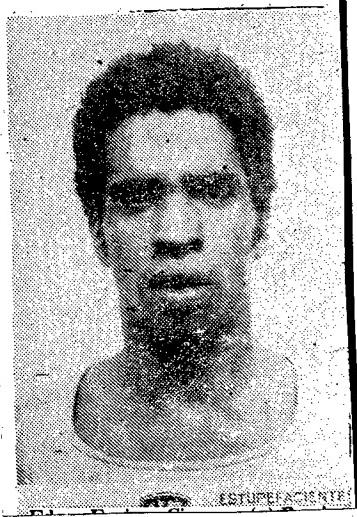
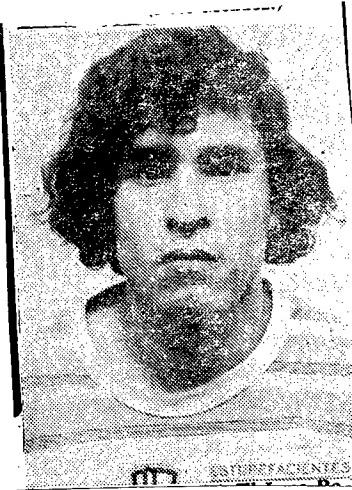
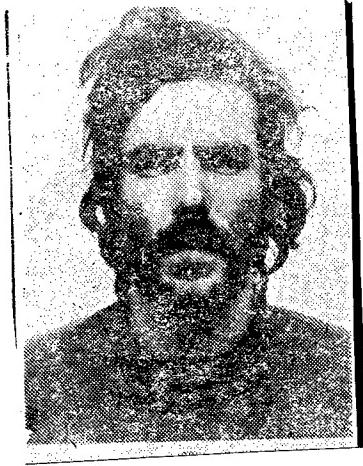
[Article by Freddy Urbina]

[Text] Three marihuana dealers in the Simon Rodriguez and Pedro Camejo regions were arrested by detectives of the Antidrug Division, in collaboration with the Patrol Division of PTJ [Judicial Technical Police], as part of the continuing Operation Drugs 77. The men were charged with distribution to minors and students.

Commissioner Chief Pedro Miguel Hurtado Carvallo, head of the above-mentioned division, reported on the arrest of the trio of alleged marihuana traffickers and identified them as Enrique Jose Pinto Gil, age 29, alias Pecos Bill; Ricardo Ramirez, age 24, alias El Loco Ramirez [Crazy Man Ramirez]; and Edgard Enrique Cisneros, age 23, alias Bemba de Chola [Blackie Big Lips]. The police confiscated more than 2,000 bags of cursed marihuana which the men had in their possession and which was ready for sale to their large clientele, most of whom are minors and young students.

In conclusion, the police chief said that investigations are continuing with a view to the arrest of other groups which are operating in various places in the metropolitan area, including the regions of La Pastora, Lidice, 23 de Enero, Pro-Patria, Urb. Urdaneta, Los Magallanes and in the east, on the basis of good leads obtained during questioning of the prisoners which reportedly will lead them to the detection of other drug dealers in the city.

(see photo next page)



[left]

Enrique Jose Pinto Gil, alias Pecos Bill, arrested in Sarria as he was selling marihuana to minors. (Photo by Mendez)

[center]

Ricardo Ramirez, alias El Loco Ramirez, another of the men arrested as a marihuana dealer in this region. (Photo by Mendez)

[right]

Edgar [sic] Enrique Cisneros, alias Bemba de Chola, arrested by PTJ as he was selling marihuana to Sarria students. (Photo by Mendez)

8143
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SEIZED--Approximately 15 kilos of marihuana were confiscated from a barber and his wife, both Colombians, by agents of the Intelligence and Antinarcotics Division of the Metropolitan Police Department, according to information released by the chief of that organization, Maj Jose Ali Becerra Lopez. The police chief said that the prisoners were identified as Etanislao Villamizar, 35, and his wife, Maria del Rosario Sanchez Villamizar, 32. "After a number of investigations, we raided the Villamizar couple's house in Antimano where the wife was at the time and a small part of the drug was found. Later, we raided the barber shop in which Villamizar was employed, in the center of town, and found a larger stash bringing the total to around 15 kilos. These arrests and confiscations," continued Maj Becerra, "have allowed us to identify other members of the ring of traffickers, including Vinicio Villamizar, brother of the male prisoner, and Jorge Vera, who have been charged with being distributors in Catia, Antimano and El Valle. [Text] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 15 Jun 77 p D-24] 8143

TON OF MARIHUANA BURNED--The chiefs of the Antidrug and Addiction Bureau of PTJ [Technical Judicial Police], in the presence of two examining magistrates, a Public Ministry prosecutor, the chief of Intelligence of the Metropolitan Police Department and officials of SAS [Health and Social Welfare] burned 1 ton of marihuana worth 5 million bolivares. The PTJ drug chief, Commissioner Pedro Miguel Hurtado Carvallo said that the drug had been confiscated during Operation "Dragon 77" conducted over the last 3 months in the metropolitan area. He also reported the dismantling of the following rings: "Los Bibliotecarios" [The Librarians], who were selling marihuana in cake form on the Caracas-Valencia superhighway; "Mogambo"; "Los Ruleteros" [The Roulette Gang]; and the Holy Week Gang. [Text] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 16 Jun 77 p D-23] 8143

CONFISCATED MARIHUANA BURNED -- A ton of marihuana worth 5 million bolivares was burned this morning in the crematory ovens of Coche. The marihuana was obtained from confiscations which took place in the past three months of this year. Information provided by Commissioner Chief Pedro Miguel Hurtado Carvallo, chief of the General Antidrug Division of PTJ [Technical Judicial Police] revealed that the ton of marihuana was the product of the efforts of detectives assigned to his office who confiscated the drug from traffickers they arrested. Readers may recall that during Operation Dragon 77, police agents arrested Ramon Villaroel Figuera and Eustaquio Ibarra Tovar on 24 February 1977. The police stopped them on a stretch of the Caracas-Valencia superhighway and confiscated their marihuana supply which was prepared in the shape of "Panelas de San Joaquin" [Saint Joachim's Biscuits: probably marihuana pressed into small cakes], as they were passing themselves off as booksellers and offering their customers marihuana in hollowed-out books. The rest of the burned marihuana supply belonged to the ring of traffickers headed by "El Maganbo" and to the baggage handlers. It also came from Operation Holy Week in various sections of the city and the interior of the country. The marihuana was burned in the presence of two examining magistrates, one Public Ministry prosecutor, representatives of the Ministry of Health and of the Office of Drug Addiction. [Text] [Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 16 Jun 77 p 14] 8143

CSO: 5300

GREECE

SELLING OF HASHISH IN PRISONS, MENTAL HOSPITAL UNCOVERED

Athens TO VIMA in Greek 14 Jun 77 p 1

[Text] He supplied narcotics to prisoners, to inmates of the mental hospital, and even to those on trial in the courts! The person in question is K. Daperis, hotel employee, against whom public prosecutor G. Theofanopoulos brought criminal prosecution yesterday for illegal possession, use, and sale of narcotics.

Mr Daperis, in a way unknown as yet, was selling hashish to various narcotics-addicted prisoners in the Korydallos prisons and to various inmates (mainly foreigners) of the Public Mental Hospital in Dafni. From a search which was made yesterday at his house, agents of the general security police discovered 750 grams of processed cannabis indica which had been prepared for sale. According to reports, Daperis took the hashish himself to the mental hospital or sent it there through relatives of the inmates.

Directly after his arrest, Daperis maintained that he was being supplied with the narcotics by a certain Strongylos--who is being hunted for-- and that he had them for his own use. But then he revealed that he in fact was selling the hashish, along with Strongylos, within the prison and in the mental hospital. At the entrance hall of the mental hospital, a gram of hashish was found yesterday which an inmate from a foreign country had hidden.

The uncovering of the supplying of narcotics to prisons and to the mental hospital occurred when, a few days ago at the Athens Five-membered Court of Appeals, the trial was taking place of four foreigners who were charged with importing, selling, and using narcotics. The four foreigners, three of whom were sentenced to heavy prison sentences, are the Swedish guide (Janet L. Baba-Newman), who was sentenced to 2 years of imprisonment and confinement in the mental hospital, the Lebanese Ibrahim Mukalikh, who was sentenced to 7 years and 6 months of imprisonment, and the Australian engineer (Peter Hall), who was

sentenced to 3 years of imprisonment. The court acquitted the American engineer (Cary Martin), who was charged in the same case.

A sensation was caused by the insistence of the Swedish woman that they lock her up in the mental hospital and not in prison, because there, she said, she "can start to be cured of narcotics, which I began to take while still a small child." The court did in fact decide on her confinement in the mental hospital for a period of 2 years.

When the trial ended and a police escort was being prepared which was to take them to the prisons, the policemen made the prescribed body search of the persons just sentenced. They were amazed to find in the pocket of the Lebanese Ibrahim a few grams of hashish. When they asked him where he got them, Ibrahim stated that the Swedish woman Janet gave them to him, and she in turn stated that she procured them shortly before the trial began from an individual, and that she gave them to her fiancee Ibrahim because she felt sorry for him for having received such a heavy sentence.

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CSO: 5300

TURKEY

BRIEFS

DELEGATION FROM THAILAND--A three-man Thai delegation arrived in Turkey today as the guest of the Turkish soil products office for studies in connection with narcotics. The delegation will have talks with Turkish officials on the subject of controlling of the planting of opium in Turkey. The delegation is expected to remain in Turkey for 10 days. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 11 Jul 77 TA]

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

CANNABIS LAW CHANGE WILL HALT EVASIONS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 25 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Terence Shaw]

[Text] Changes in the legal definition of cannabis to prevent any chance of those found possessing only the stalk and leaves of the plant evading conviction are to be introduced by the Government in the Criminal Law Bill.

Announcing this in a Commons written reply yesterday, Mr Rees, Home Secretary, also disclosed that there is to be a review of drugs classification under the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971.

It is to be made by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs which will also look into the penalties for drug offences.

Replying to a question from Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke South, Mr Rees said he had accepted in principle a recommendation by the council that people convicted of possessing cannabis who were first-time drug offenders should not be sent to prison.

Change Delayed

The council had advised against making this change in the penalty until there had been an opportunity for a review of penalties for drugs classified in a similar way to cannabis.

The Court of Appeal ruled last January that a person could not be convicted of possessing cannabis if he was found to have merely the leaves and stalk of the plant.

In making this ruling the judges quashed the conviction of a 19-year-old local government clerk who had admitted possessing fragments of cannabis leaf and stalk. He was subsequently convicted at Portsmouth Crown Court on an alternative charge of possessing cannabinol derivatives and an appeal against this conviction is expected.

Cannabis derivatives are listed as a Class A drug under the 1971 Act and their possession is subject to higher penalties than that of cannabis which is a Class B drug.

Meaning Confused

In a letter to Mr Rees made public yesterday, the chairman of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, Sir Robert Bradlaw, said that court judgments had left the law on the control of cannabis "confused, unsatisfactory and possibly unworkable."

Under the new legal definition of cannabis which is to be tabled as a Government amendment to the Criminal Law Bill, now before parliament, cannabis will no longer be defined as the "flowering or fruiting tops" but will cover all parts of the plant.

Last night a spokesman for Release, the organisation that has been campaigning for the use and possession of cannabis to be made legal, said they were disappointed that the Government was not using present opportunity to reform the law.

CSO: 5320

JUDGES SHOW UP CANNABIS LAW CONFUSION

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 2 Jul 77 p 13

[Article by Terence Shaw]

[Text]

THE confused state of the cannabis laws was confirmed yesterday by a Court of Appeal ruling that possession of only the leaves and stalk of the cannabis plant and not its flowering and fruiting tops is still an offence because they contain cannabinol derivatives.

The effect is that a person who has the less potent leaves and stalk cannot be convicted of possessing cannabis, which is listed as a Class B drug, but can be convicted of the more serious Class A offence of possessing cannabinol derivatives.

The ruling follows Government steps to clarify by legislation the confusion and uncertainty over the legal definition of cannabis and block what was feared might be a possible loophole in the law.

A Government amendment to the Criminal Law Bill redefining cannabis so that the offence of possession would not be confined to the "flowering and fruiting tops" of the plant was approved by a Commons committee on Thursday night. But it is not expected to come into force until later this year.

In the test case appeal ruling, three High Court judges held that "lurking" in the leaves

and stalk of the plant was tetrahydrocannabinol or "thc", a Class A controlled drug within the meaning of the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act.

The court dismissed an appeal by KEVIN JOHN GOODCHILD, a local government clerk, of Biggin Walk, West End, Fareham, Hants, against his conviction at Portsmouth Crown Court on March 3 of possessing a cannabinol derivative. He had been fined £25.

In January, the Court of Appeal allowed his appeal against the Crown Court's ruling that he had possessed cannabis by having the leaves and stalk of the plant.

The judges then ruled that he could not be convicted of

possessing cannabis, which was defined as the "flowering and fruiting tops" of the plant, and directed that he face trial on the more serious charge of possessing cannabinol derivates, which was not proceeded with at the original trial.

Technical data

Lord WIDGERY, Lord Chief Justice, who sat with Mr JUSTICE MELFORD STEVENSON and Mr JUSTICE SLYNN, said yesterday that the trial judge had reached his decision after reading statements by technical experts about the presence of "thc" in the leaves and stalk.

But, said Lord Widgery, even if the "thc" was only lurking in the leaf it was enough to justify a prosecution.

The court also ruled on a point of law referred to it by the Attorney-General and confirmed the trial judge's finding that possession of shredded cannabis leaves and stalk could not amount to possession of cannabis resin.

Both decisions are likely to be tested in the House of Lords.

After yesterday's judgment, Mr David Dimler, a spokesman for Release, which is campaigning for the legalisation of cannabis, described the ruling on derivatives as a "retrograde step." It put cannabis leaf, the mildest form of cannabis, into the same drug classification under the law as heroin.

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

CHINESE HEROIN TRIAL--Four men, including the son of a Malaysian tin mine millionaire, were last night convicted at the Old Bailey of being concerned in a 3 million pound Chinese heroin drugs ring, said to have links with Triad, the Chinese secret society. Two other men admitted involvement. The four were found guilty by a jury after a retirement of more than seven hours. Two other men were acquitted. The jury had still to reach verdicts on three counts, two of which involve a ninth man, when the trial was adjourned. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 14 Jun 77 p 1]

DRUGS GANG NAMED--A woman drugs courier named members of an international smuggling ring yesterday after a judge stopped her case to give her a last chance to expose the gang. Susan Seaman, 28, a Canadian, had kept silent about her "employers" since she was arrested with 12,000 pounds-worth of drugs as she came through Heathrow. At Reading Crown Court, where she admitted trying to bring cannabis resin, liquid cannabis and cocaine into Britain, Judge Edward Campbell-Salmon gave her a chance to reconsider. He adjourned her case--and after 10 minutes she came into court with her defence counsel, who said she had given "names and information" about the Canadian-based organisation to Customs officers. She was sentenced to nine months' jail. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 14 Jun 77 p 17]

SECOND POLICE SUSPENSION--A former member of Scotland Yard's drug squad has been suspended from duty following allegations that cannabis seized by police had found its way into the hands of a drug pedlar. Det. Con. Brian Tyers, serving at Bow, East London, is the second officer to have been suspended during the investigations carried out by the Yard's complaints branch. Last week Det. Sgt. Michael Carrington was suspended. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 21 Jun 77 p 2]

CANNABIS SMUGGLER JAILED--A former Scout leader, Trevor Thompstone, 41, insurance consultant, of Saxonwood Road, Cheswick Green, Solihull, near Birmingham, who admitted conspiring to smuggle cannabis from Morocco to England, was jailed for five years at Warwick Crown Court yesterday. When arrested in June last year he was an Assistant District Scout Commissioner

for West Warwickshire. He also pleaded guilty to two charges of illegally exporting currency from Britain, to pay for the cannabis, and received 18 months' concurrent sentences in each case. Costas Georgiou Costa, 31, dress manufacturer, of Beehive Lane, Ilford, Essex, was found guilty of conspiring with Thompstone and others to smuggle cannabis and was jailed for two years. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 21 Jun 77 p 6]

DRUGS ADDED TO CONTROL LIST--Two groups of compounds which produce hallucinatory effects have been added to the list of drugs controlled under the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act. The Lords yesterday approved an Order--prepared on the recommendation of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs--concerning compounds derived from the chemicals tryptamine and phenethylamine. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 21 Jun 77 p 17]

POLICE SMASH DRUGS RING--Detectives have smashed one of the country's major drugs rings following raids at Putney, Fulham and Hackney in London and at Bournemouth over the last three days. At one address, amphetamine tablets and cannabis valued at 20,000 pounds were discovered together with equipment for drugs manufacture. Two men and a woman were being questioned by detectives at Hackney police station, last night. [Text] [London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 26 Jun 77 p 4]

CSO: 5320

END